



30,073/B

Russell

Dec. 1892



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b28774978_0003



ROBERT FULLER—for a *Capital Offence*. 183

to give an account of the four following malefactors, whose cases are contained in the three subsequent narratives, which we have inserted as soon as they came to our hands, that we might give every proof of our readiness to comply with the terms we first offered to the public.



Account of the very singular Case of ROBERT FULLER, who was convicted on the *Black Act*, for shooting FRANCIS BAILEY; but recommended to *Mercy*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in the month of May, 1744, Robert Fuller*, of Harefield in Middlesex, was indicted for shooting at Francis Bailey, with a gun loaded with powder and small stones, and demanding his money, with intent to rob him.

Mr. Bailey deposed, that, as he was returning from Uxbridge-market, he saw a man near Harefield sitting on a stile, having a gun in his hand: that he jumped off the stile, seized the horse's bridle, clapped the gun to Mr. Bailey's body, and threatened to shoot him. Mr. Bailey said, "That will do you no good, nor me neither:" he then put his hand repeatedly into Bailey's pocket; but the latter would not submit to be robbed, and rode off: immediately on which Fuller shot at him, and wounded him in the right arm, so as to break the bone in splinters; and many stones, and bits of

* This was an indictment on the black act, made in the ninth year of king George the First, and continued by several other acts.

of the bone, were afterwards taken out of the arm: nor did the prosecutor recover of the wound till after languishing near twenty weeks.

The prisoner, however, had not an opportunity of robbing Mr. Bailey, as his horse took fright, and ran away at the report of the gun.

The substance of Mr. Bailey's farther deposition was, that this happened about seven o'clock in the evening, on the 24th of February, but that, as it was a clear star-light night, he had a full view of the prisoner, whom he had known before.

Bailey was now asked, if he had ever been examined before any justice of the peace in relation to the fact; to which he answered in the negative. He was then asked, if he had never charged the crime on any other person except the prisoner, which he steadily denied the having done.

In contradiction to which, a commitment was produced, in which Thomas Bowry was charged with assaulting Francis Bailey, with an intent to rob: and this Bowry was continued in custody, on the affidavit of Mr. Mellish, a surgeon, that Mr. Bailey was so ill of the wounds he had received, that he could not come to London without danger of his life: but Bowry was discharged at the gaol-delivery at the end of the sessions for June, 1743.

The copy of Bowry's commitment was now read, and authenticated by Richard Akerman, clerk of the papers to his father, the then keeper of Newgate.

On this contradictory evidence, the characters of both parties were enquired into, when that of the prosecutor appeared to be very fair, that of the prisoner rather doubtful.

Upon considering the whole matter, the jury gave a verdict that he was guilty; but on account
of

of the circumstance above mentioned, relating to the commitment of Bowry for the same offence, on Bailey's oath, they recommended the prisoner to the court, as a proper object of the royal clemency.

This affair is one of that intricate nature, which must remain involved in mystery. It is impossible for us to say whether the prosecutor was, or was not, mistaken in the man against whom he swore; but we see that he had sworn the same fact, with equal positiveness, against Bowry: and this circumstance evinces the great propriety of the jury recommending the convict to mercy, where there is even but a bare probability remaining of his innocence. In doubtful cases we should always incline to the side of mercy; and it ought to be remembered, to the credit of the court at the Old Bailey, that this rule is constantly attended to; and it is a known fact, that persons charged with capital offences have been frequently heard to declare, that they would rather take their trials at the Old Bailey, than in any other court in the kingdom.

On this occasion, it may not be improper to make a remark on the immense power that is lodged in the breasts of our judges who go the circuits. A great deal of this power is discretionary: it remains with them to reprieve the convict, or to leave him for execution: an awful trust! which makes the possessor of it accountable to God and his own conscience. We have no idea but that all the present judges exert their power in the mildest manner: but times have been when magistrates have wantonly sported with their authority, to the destruction of the innocent, and the eternal disgrace of themselves.

This circumstance should hold forth a lesson of caution, never to trust the authority of a judge but with a man distinguished equally by his knowledge, integrity, and humanity.



Account of LYDIA ADLER, who was indicted for the *Murder* of her Husband, and found guilty of *Manlaughter*.

LYDIA ADLER was tried at the Old Bailey, at the sessions held in June, 1744, for the wilful murder of her husband, John Adler, by throwing him on the ground, kicking and stamping on his groin, and giving him thereby a mortal bruise, of which he languished in St. Bartholomew's hospital from the 11th till the 23d of May, and then died: and she was again indicted on the coroner's inquest for manslaughter.

Hannah Adler, daughter of the deceased, swore, that he told her that his wife had given him the wounds which afterwards occasioned his death.

Benj. Barton deposed, that the deceased came to him on the 11th of May, with a bloody handkerchief about his head, and asked him for a spare bed, saying, "This eternal fiend" (meaning his wife) will be the death of me:" but Barton, knowing the woman to be of a very turbulent disposition, refused to lodge the man. After this, he visited him every other day during his illness, and he very often said, "I wish, Mr. Barton, you would be so good as to get a warrant to secure this woman, for she will be the death of me;" and, two hours before he died, he enquired if such
a war-

a warrant was procured : and desired that Barton would see her brought to justice, which he promised he would, if it lay in his power.

Hannah Adler, being farther questioned, said that her father died between twelve and one o'clock : that, about two hours and a half before, he said, " I am a dead man, and this lady," (the prisoner) " has killed me." That, after this, he repeatedly declared, that his wife was the person that had murdered him, and begged that she might be brought to justice. His last declaration was made only about ten minutes before he died.

Mr. Godman, a surgeon, deposed, that the husband died of a mortification, occasioned by a blow ; but acknowledged that the deceased had a rupture, and that such a blow as he had received would not have hurt a person in sound health.

The prisoner, in her defence, said, that her husband had two wives besides her ; and that a quarrel happening between her and one of the wives, the husband endeavoured to part them, and in so doing fell down, and the other woman fell on him ; but that she herself never lifted hand or foot against him.

Joseph Steele deposed, that the prisoner had had four wives ; that he was kind to them all at the first, but afterwards used to beat them severely ; and that he had seen the prisoner and her husband frequently fight together.

The jury gave a verdict of manslaughter ; in consequence of which she was burnt in the hand.

This unhappy transaction happened in the month of May, 1744.

Not to enter into the merits of the case, so far as to determine whether Mrs. Adler was, or was not, guilty of the murder with which she was

charged; there is nothing uncharitable in supposing, that the blow she gave the unhappy man hastened his death; and, presuming that she was conscious of this, whatever she might alledge in her defence, she must, if she had any feeling, have been wretched for the rest of her life.

Be this as it may, the narrative before us will afford an admirable lesson against disputes between man and wife. Those whom nature and inclination have induced to take their chance together in the voyage through life, should remember that they are bound to the support of each other in all the contingencies of that life; equally in riches or poverty, in good or bad fortune, in sickness or in health. For these, then, to quarrel, has something unnaturally shocking in it, and can be accounted for only by that horrid depravity of human nature, from the effects of which we ought to pray to the God of nature and of grace to deliver us!



Particulars respecting PATRICK BOURKE, and GEORGE ELLIS, who were convicted of killing Sheep, in order to steal the Fat of them; with proper Remarks on the Case*.

PATRICK BOURKE, otherwise John Burke, and George Ellis, were indicted at the sessions held at the Old Bailey in December, 1744, for killing

* In the course of a year it generally happens that several persons are convicted of sheep-stealing at the country assizes, who are usually thought proper objects of the lenity of the judges before whom they

killing fifteen ewe sheep, the property of John Messenger, of Kensington, with intention to steal part of the carcasses, to wit, the fat near the kidneys.

Mr. Messenger deposed, that he had lost fifteen ewes; that their throats were cut, their bellies ripped open, and the fat taken out; and likewise said, that he had lost twenty-seven lambs, which were taken out of those ewes; and he deposed, that the prisoners both confessed the crime before Sir Thomas Deveil, on the Tuesday following; and that Bourke acknowledged they sold the fat to a tallow-chandler, for forty-one shillings and two-pence halfpenny.

Richard Twyford proved the finding the sheep ripped open, and the fat taken out; and that the lambs were dragging by the sides of them; and swore that the prisoners had owned the taking the gates from the farm, to pen the sheep up.

Joseph Agnew, a constable, swore that Ellis came to him; and after having told him of a quarrel between him and Bourke, who had given him two black eyes, he acknowledged that he had been concerned with him in the commission of the crime above-mentioned. Hereupon the constable took with him three watchmen, and, going to Bourke's lodgings, seized him in bed, and found a clasp-knife lying on the ground near the feet of the bed,

they are tried: and it has rarely happened that a man has been hanged for the simple fact of sheep-stealing; though the offence be capital in the eye of the law.

bed, on which was some fat, which likewise remained when the knife was produced in court on the trial.

Bourke, on his defence, said, that he was kept drunk by the constable, in order to induce him to make a confession: but this not being credited by the jury, and there being other proofs of the fact having been acknowledged, they were capitally convicted, and received sentence of death.

This prosecution was founded upon an act of parliament made in the fourteenth year of the reign of king George the second, for the security of farmers, &c. whereby it is enacted, that, “ if
 “ any person or persons, after the first day of May,
 “ 1741, shall feloniously drive away, or in any
 “ other manner feloniously steal any sheep, &c. or
 “ shall wilfully kill one or more sheep of any per-
 “ son or persons whatsoever, with an intent to steal
 “ the whole or part of any of the carcasses, the
 “ person or persons so offending shall suffer death
 “ without benefit of clergy.”

Wretches, who, like those of whom we are writing, could wantonly destroy such a number of ewes and their lambs, for the paltry consideration of the advantage to arise from the sale of the fat of them, to the great injury of the proprietor, (to say nothing of the inhumanity of the deed) were certainly undeserving of all pity.

Some persons have thought that the law, which created sheep-stealing a capital offence, was a very cruel one: but, when we consider that sheep form a principal part of the farmer's property, and that wool is the staple commodity of this kingdom, we shall rather praise than censure our law-givers.

The case in question, however, has horrid inhumanity leagued with its defiance of the laws;
 and

and while we pity a mere sheep-stealer, we should remember that the wanton slayer of the harmless animal, for purposes so base, deserves no compassion.



A full and particular Account of the extraordinary Case of ISAAC DARKING, otherwise DUMAS, who was hanged for a *Highway-Robbery*.

THIS malefactor was born in East-cheap, where his father carried on the business of a cork-cutter. While very young he gave pregnant proofs of his attachment to what is called pleasure: a life of gaiety and dissipation had too many charms for him; and he was hailed among the young rakes, and even the ladies of the town, as a youth of very superior qualifications.

His attachment to women was remarkable: and this leading him into great expence, he had recourse to the highway to support his extravagance; the consequence of which was that he was apprehended, and, being tried at Chelmsford, was capitally convicted, and received sentence of death; but, being then very young, the judge respited him till the following assizes, when he obtained a pardon, on the condition of transportation for fourteen years.

Previous, however, to his being transported, the prisoners had formed a design of murdering the keeper, turnkey, &c. in order to effect their escape; and Darking having obtained some knowledge of the secret, he made a discovery of it; the consequence of which was, that his sentence of
transport-

transportation was remitted, on the terms of his serving as a soldier in the Plantations.

Hereupon, he was conducted to the Savoy-prison in London, whence he made several efforts to escape; but not succeeding, he at length failed with many others, and was put on shore at Antigua: but the life of a soldier being highly disagreeable to him, he determined to quit the service, without permission, as soon as possible.

He had not been long on the island before he ingratiated himself with the captain of a ship, to whom he promised a large reward, if he would land him in England. Hereupon the captain took him on board, and concealed him in the hold of the ship; so that, though diligent search was made after him, he escaped undiscovered.

On his arrival in his native country, he renewed his depredations on the highway, and committed a variety of robberies in the western counties, and in the middle of the kingdom: but, apprehensive of the consequences that might ensue, he entered on board the Royal George man of war, in which he was rated as a midshipman. In the summer of the year 1760, the ship lay at Portsmouth; and Darking, getting leave of absence for some weeks, employed this interval in committing a variety of robberies, of which the most remarkable was the following.

Lord Percival, being travelling the Bath road, on the 22d of June, Darking met him near the Devizes, and presented a pistol, demanding his money on pain of instant death. The highwayman had a crape over his face. Lord Percival gave him thirteen guineas; but, dissatisfied with that sum, he insisted on having more; on which his lordship was so provoked that he forced the pistol from his hand,
and

and, pulling him to the ground, leapt from the chaise to take him into custody. Darking now ran away, and lord Percival pursued him. The highwayman turned about, presented a pistol, and demanded his purse; but his lordship declaring he had no more money, Darking mounted his horse, and rode off, having first desired that lord Percival would not appear against him if he should be tried.

Being apprehended on the following day, he was committed to prison, and brought to trial at the next assizes held at Salisbury, when he was acquitted, because lord Percival would not swear positively to his person: yet the circumstances against him were remarkably strong; for the money found on him agreed with what lord Percival had been robbed of, a pistol was in his possession which appeared to match with that his lordship had lost, and a piece of crape was found in his pocket.

In consequence of questions asked on this trial, Darking said that he was born in the West-Indies, and was quite a stranger to this country; that, on his way from Bath to Portsmouth, he had lost his road; that, on the approach of night, he went to a village to refresh himself; and that, when he was apprehended, it could be no wonder that a benighted traveller should appear confused. He owned that he had friends in England; but they did not live near enough to do him any service on that occasion.

He declared that he had purchased a pair of pistols, one of which he had lost on the road, and was probably picked up by the person who committed the robbery with which he was charged. He said, that the confusion he appeared in when taken, arose from his being accused of a crime of

which he was innocent; and accounted for the crape found in his possession, by saying it was what he had worn as a neckcloth, having been in the king's service at the taking of Guadaloupe.

Darking was no sooner acquitted than he asked for some money which had been taken from him on his apprehension, which the court directed to be delivered to him; and then the judge dismissed him, having first remarked on the generosity of his prosecutor, and advised him to leave off such dangerous practices as those in which he had been concerned.

Being told he was now at his own disposal, he seemed full of anxiety till his fetters were knocked off, and then he immediately set out for London in a post-chaise.

During his confinement at Salisbury, his genteel accomplishments were much the subject of tea-table conversation; and he was visited by the ladies, who seemed delighted with his discourse. These circumstances gave rise to the following lines, which were published in the news-papers on his acquittal.

Joy to thee, lovely thief! that thou
Hast 'scap'd the fatal string;
Let gallows groan with ugly rogues,
Dumas must never swing.

Dost thou seek money? to thy wants
Our purses we'll resign;
Could we our hearts to guineas coin,
Those guineas all were thine.

To Bath in safety let my lord
His loaded pockets carry;
Thou ne'er again shall tempt the road,
Sweet youth! if thou wilt marry.

No

No more shall niggard travellers
 Avoid thee ;—we'll insure 'em.
 To us thou shalt consign thy balls
 And pistols ;—we'll secure 'em.

Yet think not, when the chains are off,
 Which now thy legs bedeck,
 To fly ; in fetters softer far,
 We'll chain thee by the neck.

Darking was so distinguished by the gracefulness of his person, that he was the favourite of unthinking women, wherever he came ; and it is probable that, after this escape at Salisbury, he might have married some woman of fortune, if he could have divested himself of his unhappy turn to extravagance, which led him to the highway whenever he wanted a supply.

Soon after his return to London, he commenced his former practices, infesting the roads round the metropolis for more than six months, spending at bagnios, gaming-houses, and taverns, what he acquired by his lawless practices.

His robberies near town had been so numerous, that he became apprehensive of detection, and therefore retired farther into the country, where he continued to rob some time ; but, at length, returned to London.

Having hired a horse in Piccadilly, he travelled to Oxford, where he slept ; and, the next day, returning towards London, he stopped a gentleman, named Gammon, near Nettlebed, and robbed him of his watch and money. Darking now turned back ; but the gentleman proceeded towards town, but first stopped at an inn, and left a description of the highwayman.

Mr. Gammon had not been gone more than two hours, when Darking called at the same inn, and gave the landlord two letters directed to women in London; saying, that he should not go to town for two or three days, and begging that the letters might be forwarded.

From the description that Mr. Gammon had given, the landlord concluded that Darking was the robber; but as he carried pistols, he did not chuse to secure him; but no sooner was he departed, than the landlord enclosed the letters in a cover, and sent them to London by the post, directed to Mr. Gammon.

These letters giving a knowledge of Darking's lodgings, Mr. Gammon applied to Sir John Fielding; in consequence of which, proper measures were taken for the apprehension of Darking, who was found in bed, some days afterwards, with a woman of the town. He made an attempt to escape out of the window, but was soon secured, and lodged in Newgate.

On the approach of the assizes, he was removed to Oxford by a writ of habeas corpus, and being tried before baron Adams, was convicted on the clearest evidence. When he was brought to the bar to receive sentence of death, he besought the clemency of the judge, petitioning to be transported for life; in answer to this petition, his lordship addressed him as follows:

“ Young man, you have been arraigned upon
 “ an indictment for a robbery on the king's high-
 “ way; and have been found guilty, after a fair
 “ and candid trial. From your youth, you might
 “ have expected to have lived many years; and,
 “ from your education, might have been a com-
 “ fort to your friends and relations, as well as a
 “ service

“ service to your country ; but your engaging in
 “ vicious and immoral courses hath at last brought
 “ you to this untimely end.

“ A day of this sort you could not but have
 “ expected, and it hath now overtaken you.
 “ Happy would it have been for you, that your
 “ former deliverance, in such a situation as this,
 “ had been a memento to you to have altered your
 “ conduct. I hope your present circumstances
 “ will have a better effect upon you, and induce
 “ you to repentance. Make proper use of the
 “ time you have to live, in endeavouring to make
 “ your peace with God, for you will soon be in
 “ another world ; your application to me for
 “ mercy, is quite in vain : it is not in my power
 “ to grant it ; from the king alone it is to be ex-
 “ pected ; of which, however, I can give you but
 “ little, very little hope.”

During the time this malefactor was in prison, he frequently diverted himself with reading the Beggars Opera*. He likewise drank freely ; nor did he seem to entertain a proper sense of the horrid situation to which his vices had reduced him.

On the day of execution his behaviour was remarkably intrepid ; and, at the place of his death, he fitted the halter to his neck, and threw himself off, with great appearance of determined resolution.

This

* We cannot conceive but that this play, however witty, and however applauded, has tended, beyond any piece of writing, to increase the number of thieves. Young fellows have thought it right to copy Macheath, because Macheath is represented as a *gentleman* highwayman.

198 NEW NEWGATE CALENDAR.

This criminal was hanged at Oxford, on the 16th of April, 1761.

After the pathetic address delivered by the judge to this convict, it will be the less necessary to make any particular remarks on his case. Those whose vices may have tempted them to the commission of crimes within the cognizance of the law, and who have not enough of virtue remaining to take proper warning, and reform after conviction and conditional pardon, deserve the fate they meet; and ought to die unpitied, as they have lived enemies to the repose of their fellow-creatures!



Narrative of the Case of JOHN BRETT, who was hanged at *Tyburn* for *Forgery*; with an Account of the Circumstances that led to his committing that fatal Crime.

THIS offender was the son of a clergyman in the north of Ireland, and, having received an excellent education, obtained an ensign's commission in the forty-ninth regiment of foot, on the Irish establishment, when he was about twenty years of age.

His disposition inclining him to feats of arms, he distinguished himself so greatly at the siege of Ticonderago, that he was advanced to be a lieutenant, and likewise made adjutant of a regiment.

The regiment being ordered from America to Jamaica, was stationed there some years; and in this island Brett married a gentleman's daughter, and received a considerable fortune with her; and two children were the issue of this marriage.

The

The regiment remaining in a state of inactivity, Brett was at a loss how to dispose of his time, and thereupon took to a habit of gaming, which incurred the censure of his father-in-law, who blamed him for a conduct so inconsistent with the interest of his family. Recriminations becoming mutual, the family became uneasy, and Brett wished for an opportunity of returning to Europe.

This opportunity soon offered; but, to lead to the occasion, we must mention the following fact. Deserters from the regiments in Great Britain, and sometimes persons who have been capitally convicted are sent to serve in regiments in the West-Indies; and the officers on duty there go, in rotation, to England, to examine such persons before they are sent over. Now it happened that, at the period of which we are writing, the officer appointed to sail to the port of London wished rather to remain in Jamaica; and Brett making application to go in his stead, his request was complied with; and he sailed in a man of war, which landed him at Portsmouth.

Going immediately to London, he associated with a set of gamblers, who soon stripped him of his own money, and likewise of some cash with which he was entrusted on behalf of the regiment to which he belonged. Thus distressed by his imprudence, he endeavoured to borrow money to make up his loss; but, failing in all his applications, he determined on the commission of forgery; whereupon he wrote the following letter to Mess. Frazier, Wharton, and Mullison, merchants in London:

“ Gentlemen,

“ This goes by a St. Eustatia vessel, by one
 “ Mr. Richard Horton, a purser of a man of war,
 “ whose

“ whose bills upon you, to the amount of one
 “ thousand guineas sterling, I must request the
 “ favour of you to honour, and you may depend
 “ that I shall soon send you proper remittances on
 “ that account. I have no more to add at present,
 “ but to desire you will be kind enough to com-
 “ ply with this, as it will not only be of service to
 “ him, but to myself likewise; and in so doing
 “ you will very much oblige

“ Your humble servant,

“ *Walter Pringle.*”

This letter was dated from the West-Indies,
 but not written in Mr. Pringle's hand; a circum-
 stance that gave some suspicion to the gentlemen
 to whom it was directed; who were surprized that
 the person in whose favour it was drawn did not
 deliver the letter himself, but sent it by the post.
 This occasioned suspicion of a forgery; and the
 gentlemen resolved not to accept any bills in con-
 sequence of the letter.

A few days afterwards they received a bill, of
 which the following is a copy:

“ Gentlemen, March 18, 1761.

“ Twenty days after sight please to pay to Mr.
 “ William Huggins, or order, £. 50; and charge
 “ the same to the account of Walter Pringle, Esq;
 “ of St. Christopher's, merchant, as per advice
 “ you will find by a letter of credit in my favour,
 “ by Walter Pringle.

“ *Richard Horton.*”

As it was known that no packet had arrived
 about that time from the West-Indies, little doubt
 remained but that a forgery had been committed:

where-

wherefore the merchants determined to make the most cautious enquiry. On the Monday following a gentleman, named Huggins, called for the bill, on which Mr. Mullison asked him how he came by it. He acknowledged to have received it, in his shop, of a person who would call again.

Hereupon a peace-officer was employed to attend at Mr. Huggins's house; and two days afterwards Brett came, and being carried before Sir John Fielding, he acknowledged the forgery not only of the bill, but of the letter of credit; on which he was committed to Newgate.

Brett, being brought to his trial, pleaded "not guilty;" but when Mr. Mullison had sworn to the facts, he begged leave to retract his former plea, and, having remarked that he had been ill-advised by his attorney, said, "I will not give the court any trouble to prove the name Richard Horton not to be his hand-writing: I have nothing to say but to plead guilty:" and in consequence hereof he received sentence of death.

After conviction he behaved in the most contrite and penitent manner. His father made all possible intercession to obtain the royal mercy for the unfortunate son; and in the mean time he wrote to him, to advise him to make proper preparation for that ignominious death which he had but too much reason to expect. Great interest was made to save him, but in vain: the crime was of such a nature, that it would have been a point of false lenity to pardon it in a commercial kingdom.

On the day of execution Brett was conveyed to Tyburn, with three other malefactors, one of whom was David Morgan, who had been convicted of robbing Mr. Dobbison on Finchley-common. When at the place of execution, a respite was

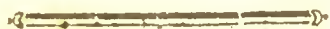
brought for Morgan, just as the executioner was on the point of tying him up. This being received by the under-sheriff, he went into the cart, saying, "Which is Morgan?" to which he answered, "My name is Morgan:" on which the under-sheriff said, "Loose him; take him away." Morgan, now turning to Brett, said, "My reprieve is come; fare you well;" and they took a most affectionate leave of each other, after which Brett earnestly continued his devotions to the last moment.

Morgan's reprieve arose from the following circumstance. He had stopped the above-mentioned Mr. Dobbison and Mr. Aukland in a chaise. Dobbison attempted to fire a blunderbuss at him; but it flashed in the pan. On this Dobbison begged his life; to which Morgan replied, "God forbid I should take your life: you know what I want; I am in necessity." Mr. Aukland said, "All you can desire of a gentleman is to ask your pardon;" to which Morgan replied, "I do not desire even that."

Brett was hanged at Tyburn on the 12th of June 1761.

After the repeated remarks we have made on the nature, danger, and consequence, of the crime of forgery, it will be the less necessary to extend our observations on this particular case of Brett. One observation, however, is too striking to be omitted. He was a military man. Military men universally consider themselves as gentlemen; so indeed they ought to be, and as such they ought to behave; but the misfortune is, that the pay of officers, excepting those in the higher ranks, is not equal by the day to what a ticket-porter will get in London. Officers, therefore, of all men, should learn

learn the great lesson of frugality, if they would wish to live with credit in that rank to which their interest or merit may have advanced them.



Particulars respecting THOMAS ANDREWS, who was convicted of the unnatural and detestable Crime of *Sodomy*; but afterwards Pardoned.

THIS miserable wretch, who had formerly lived in good credit, kept a public-house at Pye-corner, near Smithfield, known by the sign of the Fortune of War, where he had as much business as enabled him to support his family in some degree of credit.

John Finnimore, a servant out of place, who had been acquainted with Andrews when he (Finnimore) lived with Mrs. Mead in Red Lyon court, behind St. Sepulchre's church, called on Andrews to enquire if he could help him to a service. Andrews's wife being now out of town, he told Finnimore that he was welcome to sleep at his house; but the other declined it for that night, as Mrs. Mead had given him permission to lodge at her house.

On the following day Finnimore went to Andrews's with an acquaintance; and, after they had drank together, Finnimore hinted that Mrs. Mead had not offered him a lodging for the second night; on which Andrews told him, that, as his wife was still out of town, he was welcome to a share of his bed. Hereupon Finnimore went away with his acquaintance, and returned about nine o'clock in the evening.

There were at that time a considerable number of people in the house ; and when they were gone, which was not till near one o'clock in the morning, Andrews locked the doors, and he and Finnimore went to bed together.

What passed, or was presumed to pass, till daylight, it is impossible to relate with any kind of regard to the laws of decency.

In the morning Andrews opened the door, and Finnimore, going out without exchanging a word with him, went to his acquaintance, whom he found at the George in Leather-lane, looking after some horses which he drove, being coachman to a gentleman who put up his cattle at that place.

The coachman asked Finnimore to carry a letter to Clapham ; but he said he could not go ; and assigned such reasons as accounted for his incapacity.

Hereupon the coachman advised Finnimore to have Andrews taken into custody ; and on the following day a warrant was procured for this purpose ; and when the constable went to take Andrews into custody, he charged him likewise with Finnimore ; on which the constable took charge of them both.

The constable conducted them to the Mansion-house : but the lord mayor being absent, they were conveyed to the houses of two aldermen, neither of whom happening to be at home, Finnimore was lodged for that night in Bridewell, and Andrews in the Compter.

On the following day they were carried before Sir Robert Ladbroke, the sitting alderman, at Guildhall, when Finnimore made such a charge against Andrews, that he was committed to Newgate.

At the ensuing sessions Andrews was brought to his trial at the Old Bailey, when Finnimore gave such a clear account of the horrid transaction, that the jury did not hesitate to find the prisoner guilty, and he received sentence of death.

Notwithstanding this conviction on evidence, the most compleat that the nature of such a case would allow, a conviction that left no doubt of Andrews's guilt in the mind of the public; yet such interest was made, that he was indulged with a reprieve, and afterwards obtained a full pardon.

Andrews was discharged from Newgate in the month of July, 1761.

What sort of interest it was that procured a pardon for this man, it may be improper, because it could hardly be decent, to say. It is a subject that the delicate pen scarcely knows how to touch: but pardoned he was, to the astonishment of nine persons in ten who knew any thing of the case.

The writer of this narrative was well acquainted with two of the gentlemen that were of the jury that convicted Andrews; and he has been repeatedly assured by them, that the strength of the evidence against him was such that no kind of doubt could remain of his guilt. Let the rest be buried, as it ought to be, in obscurity; and we believe our readers will thank us, that this obnoxious story is one of the shortest in our collection.



Particulars respecting the Case of JOHN PERROT, who was hanged in *Smithfield*, for concealing his Effects under a Commission of Bankruptcy, with a view to defraud his Creditors.

THIS malefactor was a native of Newport-Pagnell in Buckinghamshire, where he was born in the year 1723. His father died when he was only seven, and his mother when he was nine years of age; but by their death he became entitled to a fortune of £. 1500. His guardian now put him to school at Gillsborough in Northamptonshire, and afterwards apprenticed him at Hempstead in Hertfordshire.

Coming to London in the year 1747, he opened a warehouse for the sale of lace; and, in 1749, he took a shop in Blowbladder-street, between Newgate street and Cheapside; whence, in the year 1752, he removed to Ludgate-hill, and commenced business as a wholesale linen-draper. His returns for six years were considerable; and his payments being punctual, he lived in a great degree of credit.

It appears, that it was in the year 1758 when he formed the scheme of defrauding his creditors; since from this time to that of his bankruptcy, which took place in January 1760, he got credit for goods to the amount of near thirty thousand pounds. These goods were sent to a man named Thomson in Monkwell-street, who sent for other tradesmen, and sold them at a reduced price, on the pretence of being an agent for some manufacturers in the country.*

Perrot

* Effects honestly obtained, and good of their kind, will fetch a market-price.

Perrot having thus repeatedly acquired money, which there is but too much reason to think was spent in extravagance, and being unable to pay his bills, summoned his creditors to meet at the Half-Moon tavern in Cheapside, where he informed them that he could no longer discharge his obligations; on which they agreed to take out a commission of bankruptcy against him.

Perrot being made a bankrupt, and the assignees having inspected his books, they found such irregularity in his accounts, and so great a deficiency in the sum in which he was indebted, that they had great reason to suspect that he had defrauded them. Perrot, conscious that he had not acted honourably, petitioned the lord chancellor to enlarge the term of his surrender; and this petition being complied with, the commissioners were served with an order for such enlargement, just as they had met for a final examination of the Bankrupt.

This additional time gave the creditors an opportunity of enquiring how the effects had been disposed of, and in consequence of their enquiries they found that a box had been sent by Perrot to Patrick Donelly, a barber, in Bell-yard, near Temple-bar. The commissioners of bankrupt having summoned Donelly to attend them, he said that the box had been carried from his house to that of Mrs. Ferne, near Queen-square.

Mrs. Ferne, being summoned before the commissioners, deposed, that the box in question contained nothing but letters, and that she was not in possession of any of Perrot's effects.

At this period Perrot was guilty of an act of ingratitude that will be thought a striking feature in his character. Among the creditors who came to prove their debts, was a Mr. Whitton, of North-

Northampton, to whom was owing upwards of four thousand pounds. Perrot told the creditors that the just demand of Whitton was not more than eighteen hundred pounds; and that all the surplus must be for usurious interest: but this aspersions was immediately wiped away by Mr. Whitton, who proved that he had never taken more, and frequently less, than the legal interest.

On the last day of Perrot's examination before the commissioners, they were so dissatisfied with his answers to the questions asked him, that they committed him to Newgate on the 13th of April, 1760.

During his confinement in Newgate, he was repeatedly visited by Mrs. Ferne, who came gaily dressed, and attended by a livery servant. On these occasions Perrot used to clean the knives, while Mrs. Ferne dressed a steak, in order, as it was presumed, to keep up the appearance of frugality.

Perrot, after a confinement of several months in Newgate, moved the court of king's-bench that a writ might be issued for his being brought up and examined. This was granted, but, after council had been heard for and against the bankrupt, he was remanded to Newgate, there to remain till he should give satisfactory answers to his creditors.

After this, Perrot made a re-application to the lord chancellor, in which he alledged that, having conformed to the laws respecting bankrupts, he ought to be discharged. This matter was debated before the chancellor, when it was determined that the prisoner could obtain redress only in the court of king's-bench; as the matter in question was strictly of legal determination.

Hereupon Perrot was again carried before the court of king's-bench; but the judges, having no doubt of the legality of his former commitment, remanded

manded him to Newgate. Undismayed by his ill success, he moved the court of king's-bench a third time; but judgment went against him, and he was once more sent back to his place of confinement.

On the certificate of the judgment of the court of king's-bench in that of chancery, the lord chancellor dismissed Perrot's petition. This, however, did not deter him from a further procedure; for he moved the court of common-pleas for an action against his creditors, for having falsely imprisoned him: but this application was attended with no better success than the former.

In the interim the assignees advertised a reward of forty per cent. on the discovery of the effects which it was presumed Perrot had concealed.

At this period Mr. Hewit, a principal creditor, being walking on the terrace of Lincoln's-inn garden, observed one Mary Harris leaning over the wall, with looks of extreme dejection. Prompted by humanity, he enquired into the cause of her distress, when she told him that a gentlewoman, named Ferne, with whom she had lived, had discharged her, and she knew not where to apply for employment. Mr. Hewit's curiosity being excited by the name of Ferne, he made some enquiries; in consequence of which he directed her to Mr. Cobb, who was attorney for the assignees under the commission. Mr. Cobb, having asked her some questions, took her before Sir John Fielding, to whom she confessed that she had known Mrs. Ferne about four years; that she was then very poor; and both of them took lodgings in Shire-lane, near Temple-bar.

She farther said, that in the year 1760 Mrs. Ferne called on her, and bade her come to her lodgings, where she hired her as a servant; that she heard

her mistress frequently talk of Perrot as a bankrupt, and had seen bank-notes in her possession to the amount of four thousand pounds. She added, that she had often been with her mistress to Newgate, to see Perrot ; and that the mode of their living, after he had obtained his liberty, was the frequent subject of their conversation. She farther said, that she had seen them cut some bank-notes, the halves of which Mrs. Ferne carried to her lodgings, and the other halves Perrot secreted in his trunk.

Hereupon Sir John Fielding issued his warrant for searching Mrs. Ferne's lodgings, in which were found the halves of several bank-notes ; and the commissioners of bankrupt issuing their warrant for the search of Perrot's room in Newgate, the other halves of the bank-notes, corresponding with the former, were found in the bottom of his trunk.

In consequence of these discoveries, Mrs. Ferne was carried before Sir John Fielding, to whom she declared that the notes were her own property, and that she had received them of gentlemen, in consequence of obligations which they lay under to her for favours. The assignees, however, were of a different opinion, and traced these very notes back to Thomson, who took them for goods which he had sold on Perrot's account.

The guilt of Perrot being now almost beyond a doubt, he was removed from the room which he had hitherto occupied in Newgate, and confined to a place of greater security, assigned for the reception of common felons.

At the sessions held at the Old-Bailey, in the month of September, 1761, John Perrot was brought to trial, convicted on the fullest evidence, and received the judgment of the law.

Here—

Hereupon the malefactor was lodged in one of the cells ; but while in this situation he laid a plan to effect an escape, for which purpose a number of sailors were hired to rescue him in the day-time while he should be going from the chapel to the cell. To afford a proper occasion for this rescue, Perrot expressed his wishes that the prayers in the chapel might be more frequently repeated : but, about this time, a hint was given to the keeper of Newgate, not to permit the convict to be longer from his cell than during the time that he was at and going to and from the chapel. It was likewise hinted to the ordinary of Newgate, that it would be proper to visit the prisoner at uncertain hours, and not more than once in the day.

On the arrival of the warrant for his execution, he seemed to be less alarmed than might have been expected ; and said only “ The will of the Lord “ be done.” Two of his assignees visiting him on the day before his death, it was expected he would have made a full acknowledgment of his offences ; but this he declined to do, saying, “ I have this “ day received the holy sacrament, and will answer “ no more questions.”

He confessed, on the morning of his execution, that he had been justly condemned ; appeared exceedingly anxious with regard to the disposal of his body, which he desired might be buried in the church of the parish in which he was born ; but seemed greatly terrified at the idea of the dreadful scene that was soon to ensue.

Perrot was carried from Newgate to Smithfield, and while under the gallows seemed to be agitated with a thousand fears ; and when the ordinary of Newgate went to attend him, he was looking earnestly for the hearse which was to receive his

body; a circumstance that gave occasion to many people to think that he was looking in expectation of a reprieve.

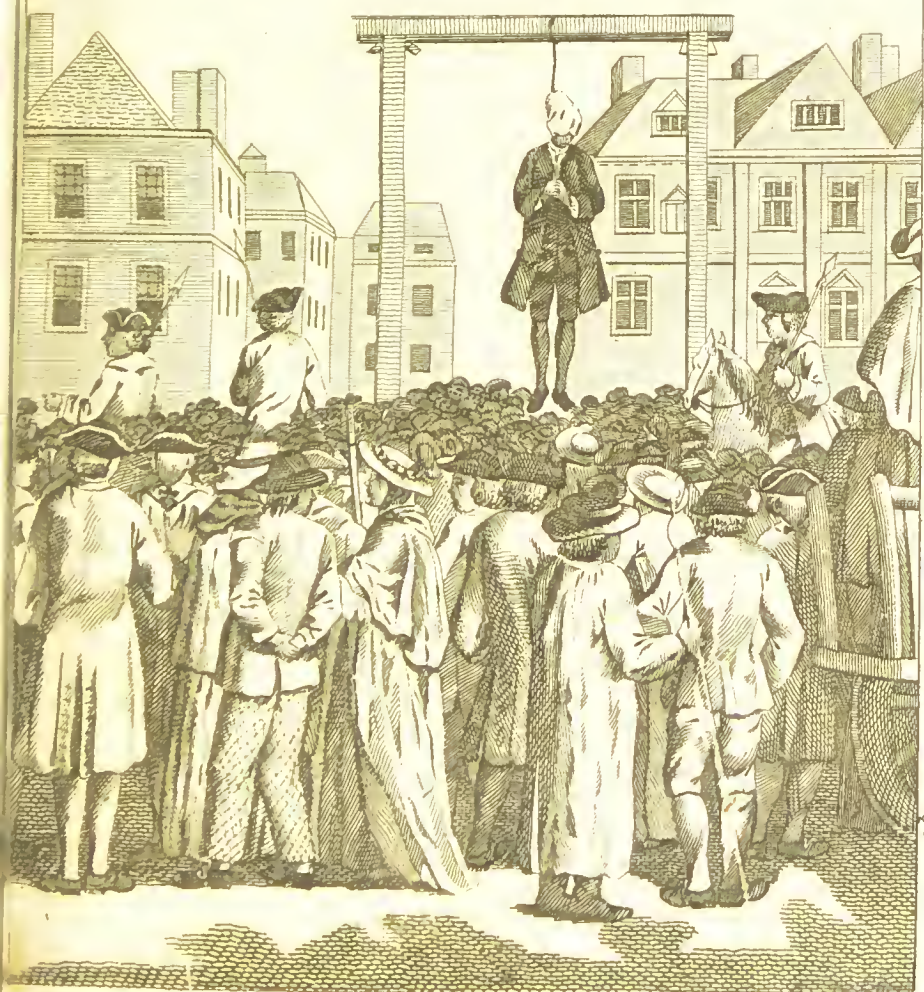
After the customary devotions on such awful occasions, he suffered the sentence of the law; and died as little pitied as almost any malefactor that has ever undergone such sentence.

John Perrot was hanged in Smithfield on the 11th of November, 1761.

When we consider the nature and magnitude of the crime of which this unhappy man was convicted, we shall be far from censuring the presumed severity of the law, which condemns to death the bankrupt who secretes his effects from his creditors. It is unfortunate enough that creditors should lose, by the failure of a debtor, what property they may have accumulated by their honest industry; and it is dreadful to think, that they should be farther defrauded by the arts of the designing.

We hope, for the honour of human nature, that there are not many bankrupts who become such through a design to impose; but, whenever this is known to be the fact, we are justified in saying that no punishment is too severe for the offender. The laws of England are not unfavourable to bankrupts; and it seldom happens that tradesmen who are so unfortunate as to fail in trade, yet give indisputable proof of the integrity of their intentions, are deprived of the necessary passport for recommencing business. There is a generosity in the traders of this country, which inspires them to wish that every honest man may have equal right with themselves to exercise his profession.

Some creditors (and we are sorry to say it) of contracted minds and illiberal sentiments, urge as a reason against signing the certificate of the unfortunate



*The Execution of Perrott in Smithfield for defrauding
his Creditors under a Commission of Bankrupt.*

fortunate bankrupt, that there are few bankrupts who ever afterwards pay their debts. The answer to this is plain. Few bankrupts ever have it in their power. The man who has lost his credit, and beggared his family, is not in a likely way to do more than provide reputably for himself; much less to discharge his obligations to others.

From the story before us, young tradesmen will learn how very important an affair it is to act with the strictest regard to the laws of honour; and we hope that no man will henceforth be tempted to conceal his effects from his creditors, from the idea that it is possible for any one to live happily on the produce of dishonesty.



Particulars respecting the Case of JOHN McNAUGHTON, Esq; who was hanged for *Murder*; with an Account of his resolute Behaviour at the place of Execution.

THIS malefactor was a native of Londonderry in Ireland, his father being a merchant of that place, and his grandfather an alderman of Dublin. Young McNaughton gave early proofs of his being influenced by the most ungovernable passions.

After the foundation of his education was laid at the grammar school of Londonderry, he was sent to Trinity college, Dublin, to compleat it; and, on his coming of age, took possession of an estate of six hundred a year, which an uncle had bequeathed him.

Such

Such a fortune, in the North of Ireland, might have enabled him to live in a stile of elegant independance; but an unhappy propensity to gaming so reduced him that he was necessitated to mortgage his estate.

At this period he married a young lady, and, taking an elegant house in Dublin, lived in a stile much above his circumstances. The consequence of this extravagance was, that he became much involved in debt, and a principal creditor took out an action against him for a considerable sum. M'Naughton, unable to pay the debt, secreted himself from the bailiffs: but at length the creditor persuaded the sheriff to serve the writ himself.

The sheriff going in a chair to M'Naughton's house, found him in the parlour with his wife, and told him he was a prisoner. The lady being pregnant, this declaration had such an effect on her, that she was immediately seized with the pains of child-birth, and being delivered of a dead child, died herself at the expiration of a few days.

M'Naughton, however, drove the sheriff from his house, and as soon as he had given orders respecting his wife's funeral, retired into the country, where, for some time, he abandoned himself to the most disagreeable reflections: but the frugal way in which he lived so retrieved his circumstances, that he was once more enabled to appear in Dublin in his usual stile of elegance.

Soon after this, the lord lieutenant granted him the post of collector of the revenues for the county of Coleraine: but it was not long before some of the public money was squandered by gaming; and, when he found himself unable to make up the deficiency, his wife's relations paid it for him,

to

to prevent the legal consequences that must otherwise have taken place.

We must now take notice of the unhappy event that gave rise to this narrative. M'Naughton, some years after the death of his wife, contracted an acquaintance with Mr. Knox, a man of large fortune in the county of Derry. Miss Knox was entitled to £.5000 when she came of age, in consequence of her father's marriage-settlement: she was a young lady of great beauty and accomplishments; so that it is no wonder if her charms made an impression on the heart of M'Naughton, who was a frequent visitor at her father's house.

He paid his addresses to the young lady, and she promised to accept him as a husband, if her father's consent could be obtained. Hereupon M'Naughton applied to the old gentleman, who not only refused his acquiescence, but forbade the other to visit the family in future.

Hereupon M'Naughton desired that he might not be forbid the house, as it might cause very unfavourable suspicions in the neighbourhood. Mr. Knox consented that he should continue his visits: but no sooner was this favour granted, than he courted Miss Knox with as much ardor as formerly, and obtained her consent to marry him at the expiration of two years, as she was at that time too young for a wife.

Soon afterwards, M'Naughton being with her, when a little boy only was present, he pulled out a book of Common Prayer, and read the ceremony of marriage, desiring that she would make the responses. This she did; but added to each of them "if my father will consent."

This transaction had not long passed, when Mr. M'Naughton meeting Miss Knox at the house of a neighbour, he insisted that she was his wife; which

which she denied; and on her return home acquainted her father with what had passed; on which the old gentleman wrote to M'Naughton, insisting that he should decline all future visits, and upbraiding him with his past ill-behaviour.

M'Naughton had no sooner received Mr. Knox's letter, than he inserted an advertisement in the news-papers, declaring that the young lady was his wife; to which Mr. Knox inserted an answer, and then entered a process in the spiritual court, which set aside the pretended marriage, and decreed, that if M'Naughton thought himself injured, he must appeal to the common law for damages.

On this M'Naughton applied to the court of Delegates; but the judge issued a warrant for apprehending him; which irritated him to such a degree, that he sent a letter to the judge, threatening that he would murder him when he came the circuit. This letter occasioned the issuing a king's bench warrant against him: so that, finding himself unsafe in Ireland, he came to London.

The obtaining possession of Miss Knox was yet the object of his wishes; wherefore he returned to Ireland, disguised himself, and continued in the neighbourhood of the young lady's father. But no steps were taken by the family to preserve themselves from the danger with which his appearance seemed to threaten them, other than having occasionally in their company a smith whose wife had nursed the young lady, and who was remarkably faithful to the interests of the family.

Mr. Knox was riding in his coach with his daughter, in the beginning of November, 1761, and attended by the smith above mentioned; when M'Naughton and three others approached, two of whom presented their pistols to the postilion, and ordered him to stop.

M'Naughton

M'Naughton, seeing the smith, fired a blunderbuss at him, but the shot did not take place; yet one of the companions immediately fired a pistol, which wounded the smith in the arm, and disabled him from firing his gun, which he was preparing to do. Hereupon M'Naughton, and one of his accomplices, fired their pistols at the carriage, the window of which being instantly drawn up, M'Naughton immediately rode to the other side of it, and discharged a piece, which contained five balls, all of which took place in Miss Knox's body.

A maid-servant now let down the window-blind, and exclaiming that her young lady was murdered, a footman of Mr. Knox's, who had concealed himself behind a stack of turf, fired a pistol at M'Naughton: at the same instant another pistol was fired from the coach by Mr. Knox. M'Naughton, though wounded in the back, rode off; but on the following day he was apprehended, by a party of light-horse, and lodged in Lifford gaol.

The young lady was carried to an adjacent cottage, where she died about three hours after she received the wound. The lord lieutenant of Ireland immediately offered a reward of five hundred pounds, to be paid on the apprehension of M'Naughton's accomplices, who were soon taken into custody, and one of them was admitted an evidence.

A special commission being issued, two judges went to Lifford, to try the delinquents, on the 8th of December: but M'Naughton's council urged so many objections, that the trial was postponed for three days, when it continued from eight in the morning till eleven at night, the judges not once quitting the court while the matter was depending.

M'Naughton, being ill of his wounds, was carried into court wrapped in a blanket ; yet he cross-examined the witnesses in such a manner as fully proved the strength of his mind.

One of his accomplices having been admitted an evidence, and one of the others being acquitted, M'Naughton, and another named Dunlap, were capitally convicted, and received sentence of death.

M'Naughton earnestly begged that mercy might be extended to his accomplice, declaring that he had acted under his directions : but this plea could have no weight, for reasons that will appear obvious to every reader ; for the man who consents to an act which ends in murder, is deemed a murderer in the eye of the law.

When the day of execution arrived, M'Naughton, who was still very weak, walked to the fatal spot with the help of two men who supported him. His dress was singular, consisting of a night-cap tied with a black ribbon, white stockings, black buckles, a flannel waistcoat trimmed with black, and having black buttons, and a crape round the arm.

M'Naughton desired the hangman to do his duty speedily ; and the man pointing to the ladder, the other instantly ascended it ; and no sooner was the rope about his neck, than he jumped off with such force that it broke ; and he might have escaped, if he had possessed strength and recollection ; for the croud, from a momentary impulse of humanity, made a passage, as if they wished to screen him from the rigour of the law.

M'Naughton, being taken up, was re-conducted to the gallows, when the executioner took Dunlap's rope, and fixing it round M'Naughton's neck, he
ascended

ascended the ladder, tied the rope to the gallows, jumped off, and expired almost immediately.

Dunlap remained a miserable spectator of this scene, and was hanged after M'Naughton was cut down.

These malefactors suffered near Strabane, on the 15th of December, 1761.

This unhappy story shews us to what an ungovernable height the passions may be carried; nor need we make a farther remark on the deplorable case, than to observe that a man is never so truly respectable as when he keeps his passions under the subjection of reason, that reason which was given him by God, to conduct him through this life, and, by the aid of religion, to admit him to a better.



Account of the savage Barbarities practised upon two Orphan Sisters, by SARAH METYARD, and her Daughter SARAH MORGAN METYARD, who were executed at *Tyburn*, for *Murder*.

THE above malefactors kept a house in Bruton-street, Hanover-square, the mother dealing in millinery goods, and the daughter acting as her assistant. In the year 1758, the mother had five apprentice girls bound to her from different parish workhouses, among whom were Anne Naylor and her sister.

Anne Naylor, being of a sickly constitution, was not able to do so much work as the other apprentices about the same age; and therefore she became the more immediate object of the fury of the barbarous women, whose repeated acts of cruelty at length occasioned the unhappy girl to abscond.

Being brought back, she was confined in an upper apartment, and allowed each day no other sustenance than a small piece of bread, and a little water.

Seizing an opportunity of escaping from her confinement, she got unperceived into the street, and ran to a milk-carrier, whom she begged to protect her, saying, if she returned, she must certainly perish, through the want of food, and the severe treatment she daily received. Being soon missed, she was followed by the younger Metyard, who seizing her by the neck, forced her into the house, and threw her upon the bed in the room where she had been confined, and she was then seized by the old woman, who held her down while the daughter beat her with the handle of a broom in a most cruel manner.

They afterwards put her into a back-room on the second story, tying a cord round her waist, and her hands behind her, and fastening her to the door in such a manner that it was impossible for her either to sit or lay down. She was compelled to remain in this situation for three successive days: but they permitted her to go to bed at the usual hours at night. Having received no kind of nutriment for three days and two nights, her strength was so exhausted that, being unable to walk up stairs, she crept to the garret where she lay on her hands and feet. While she remained tied up on the second floor, the other apprentices were ordered to work in an adjoining apartment, that they might be deterred from disobedience by being witnesses to the unhappy girl's sufferings: but they were enjoined, on the penalty of being subjected to equal severity, against affording her any kind of relief.

On

On the fourth day she faltered in speech, and presently afterwards expired. The other girls seeing the whole weight of her body supported by the strings which confined her to the door, were greatly alarmed, and called out, "Miss Sally! Miss Sally! Nanny does not move." The daughter now came up stairs, saying, "If she does not move, I will make her move;" and then beat the deceased on the head with the heel of a shoe.

Perceiving no signs of life, she called to her mother, who came up stairs, and having ordered the strings that confined the deceased to be cut, laid the body across her lap, and directed one of the apprentices where to find a bottle with some hartshorn drops.

When the child had brought the drops, she and the other girls were ordered to go down stairs; and the mother and daughter, being convinced that the object of their barbarity was dead, conveyed the body into the garret. They related to the other apprentices, that Nanny had been in a fit, but was perfectly recovered, adding, that she was locked into the garret lest she should again run away: and, in order to give an air of plausibility to their tale, at noon the daughter carried a plate of meat up stairs, saying it was for Nanny's dinner.

They locked the body of the deceased in a box on the fourth day after the murder; and having left the garret-door open, and the street-door on the jar, one of the apprentices was told to call Nanny down to dinner, and to tell her that, if she would promise to behave well in future, she should be no longer confined. Upon the return of the child, she said, Nanny was not above stairs; and after a great parade in searching every part of the house, they reflected upon her as being of an untractable

tractable disposition, and pretended that she had ran away.

The sister to the deceased, who was apprentice to the same inhuman mistress, mentioned to a lodger in the house, that she was persuaded her sister was dead; observing, that it was not probable she had gone away, since her shoes, shift, and other parts of her apparel, still remained in the garret.

The suspicions of this girl coming to the knowledge of the inhuman wretches, they, with a view of preventing a discovery, cruelly murdered her, and secreted the body.

The body of Anne remained in the box two months, during which time the garret-door was kept locked, lest the offensive smell should lead to a discovery. The stench became so powerful, that they judged it prudent to remove the remains of the unhappy victim to their barbarity; and therefore, in the evening of the 5th of December, they cut the body in pieces, and tied the head and trunk up in one cloth, and the limbs in another, excepting one hand, a finger belonging to which had been amputated before death, and that they resolved to burn.

When the apprentices were gone to bed, the old woman put the hand into the fire, saying, "The fire tells no tales." She intended entirely to consume the remains of the unfortunate girl by fire; but, fearing the smell would give rise to suspicion, changed that design, and taking the bundles to the gully-hole in Chick-lane, endeavoured to throw the parts of the mangled corpse over the wall into the common sewer; but, being unable to effect that, she left them among the mud and water that was collected before the grate of the sewer.

Some

Some pieces of the body being discovered about twelve o'clock by the watchman, he mentioned the circumstance to the constable of the night. The constable applied to one of the overseers of the parish, by whose direction the parts of the body were collected, and taken to the watch-house. On the following day the matter was communicated to Mr. Umfreville, the coroner, who examined the pieces found by the watchman; but supposing them to be parts of a corpse taken from a church-yard for the use of some surgeon, he declined summoning a jury.

Four years elapsed before the discovery of these horrid murders, which at length happened in the following manner. Continual disagreements prevailed between the mother and daughter; and, though the latter was now arrived to the age of maturity, she was often beat, and otherwise treated with severity. Thus provoked, she sometimes threatened to destroy herself, and at others to give information against her mother as a murderer.

About two years after the murders, a gentleman, named Rooker, took lodgings in the house of Met-yard, where he lived about three months, during which time he had frequent opportunities of observing the severity with which the girl was treated.

He hired a house in Hill-street, and, influenced by compassion for her sufferings, and desirous of relieving her from the tyranny of her mother, he invited the girl to live in his family in the capacity of a servant; which offer she cheerfully embraced, though her mother had many times violently opposed her desire of going to service.

The girl had no sooner removed to Mr. Rooker's house, than the old woman became perfectly outrageous; and it was almost her constant daily prac-

tice to create disturbances in Mr. Rooker's neighbourhood, by venting the most bitter execrations against the girl, and branding her with the most opprobrious epithets.

Mr. Rooker removed to Ealing, to reside on a little estate bequeathed him by a relation; and having by this time seduced the girl, she accompanied him, and lived with him professedly in the character of his mistress.

The old woman's visits were not less frequent at Ealing than they had been at Mr. Rooker's house in London; nor was her behaviour less outrageous. At length Mr. Rooker permitted her to be admitted into the house, imagining that such indulgence would induce her to preserve a decency of behaviour: but he was disappointed, for she still continued to disturb the peace of his family.

On the 9th of June, 1762, she beat her daughter in a terrible manner; and, during the contention, many expressions were uttered by both parties that gave great uneasiness to Mr. Rooker. The mother called Mr. Rooker, "The old perfume tea dog;" and the girl retorted, by saying, "Remember, mother, you are the perfumer; you are the "Chick-lane ghost," alluding to the body of Anne Naylor having been kept in the box till it became intolerably offensive, and then thrown among the mud and water in Chick-lane.

The mother being retired, Mr. Rooker urged the girl to explain what was meant to be insinuated by the indirect accusations introduced by both parties in the course of the dispute: and, bursting into tears, she confessed the particulars of the murders, begging that a secret so materially affecting her mother might never be divulged.

Mr.

Mr. Rooker imagined that the daughter could not be rendered amenable to the law, as she performed her share in the murders by the direction of her mother; but we pretend not to say that he would have suppressed the discovery, had he supposed that making the horrid transaction public would have endangered the girl's life. Mr. Rooker wrote concerning the affair to the overseers of Tottenham parish, whence the girls were put out apprentice: in consequence of which the elder Metyard was taken into custody.

On the day of examination Mr. Rooker, the younger Metyard, and two children, apprentices in the house when the murders were committed, attended at Sir John Fielding's house in Bow-street. The evidence against the prisoner left no doubt of her guilt; and she was committed to New-prison, Clerkenwell, for re-examination, and the girls were put under the protection of the overseers of St. George's, Hanover-square.

Upon the prisoner's being examined a second time, she was remanded for trial; and some circumstances having arisen to criminate the daughter, she was ordered to stand at the bar of Sir John's office, and the evidence against her being recapitulated on oath, she was committed to the Gate-house.

On the trial of these offenders, which came on at the ensuing Old-Bailey sessions, they bitterly recriminated each other, and their mutual accusations served to confirm the evidence of their guilt. The younger Metyard pleaded pregnancy; on which a jury of matrons was summoned, who pronounced that she was not with child: after which they were both sentenced to be executed on the following Monday, and then to be conveyed to Surgeons' hall for dissection.

The mother being in a fit when she was put into the cart, she lay at her length till she came to the place of execution, when she was raised up, and means were used for her recovery, but without effect, so that she departed this life in a state of insensibility. From the time of leaving Newgate to the moment of her death the daughter wept incessantly: it is true, she joined the ordinary in prayer; but such was the distracted state of her mind, that there is but too much reason to fear she died without that sincere repentance which alone can avert the terrible decree denounced against those who impiously arrogate to themselves the power of the Almighty, and imbrue their hands in the blood of innocence. After hanging the usual time, the bodies were conveyed in a hearse to Surgeons'-hall, where they were exposed to the curiosity of the public, and then dissected.

Sarah Metyard, and Sarah Morgan Metyard, were executed at Tyburn, on the 19th of July, 1768.

The unprovoked and horrid cruelties exercised by the above malefactors, must raise astonishment and abhorrence in every mind, not wholly destitute of the common feelings of humanity. What crime can be more offensive to the Almighty than murder, attended with the most aggravating circumstances of barbarity? What man can hope for the forbearance of the divine vengeance, when he has been deaf to the calls of mercy from his fellow-creatures?

To dwell on the present case would, perhaps, be impertinent, as we should thereby anticipate the reflections that will naturally occur on the perusal of this narrative.

It may not, however, be improper to recommend a law for obliging the church-wardens or
over,

overseers to make proper enquiries respecting the children apprenticed from the parish work-houses, who, was such a law to be instituted, would be, though orphans and friendless, no longer in danger of becoming miserable victims to the barbarous practices of wretches who disgrace human nature.

It may be objected, that a regulation of this kind would be attended with uncertainty, difficulty, and expence. The answer is easy; let some officer of each parish occasionally visit the charity apprentices within his jurisdiction, and make quarterly or monthly reports to his overseers, or those of the parishes whence the children were apprenticed; and let a penalty be inflicted on persons removing with a charity apprentice, without giving the church-wardens notice, on oath, of the parish in which they are going to reside.



Account of JOHN PLACKET, who was executed for robbing and barbarously treating Mr. FAYNE, a Norway Merchant, in a Field near *Islington*.

THIS offender was the son of poor but honest and industrious people living at Islington, who placed him at a charity-school, whence he was apprenticed to Mr. Pullen, wheel-wright, of St. John's-street. He absconded from his master before four years of his apprenticeship were expired, and entered on board a man of war. His character as a sailor was unexceptionable; but when the ship was paid off, he contracted an acquaintance with a number of dissolute people, and having soon spent

F f 2

his

his wages in scenes of riot and dissipation, he commenced foot-pad.

Having subsisted some time by the commission of robberies on the highway, he broke into a house near Hockley-in-the-hole, and stole a quantity of kitchen furniture; for which offence he was tried at the Old Bailey, and sentenced to seven years transportation.

Soon after the expiration of the term of his exile, Placket returned to England, and committed several robberies between Islington and London. On the 10th of June Placket was drinking with some sailors, during the greatest part of the day, at a public-house in Wapping; and about twelve at night he left them, with an intention of committing robbery.

The same night Mr. Fayne, a Norway merchant, was returning from the Danish coffee-house in Wellclose-square (where he had spent the evening with some friends) to his lodgings in Shadwell; when losing his way, he enquired of a hackney-coachman the road to Shadwell; but, as he spoke very indifferent English, the man could not understand him; and he presently applied for the same purpose to another hackney-coachman; at which instant Placket came up, and made signs for Mr. Fayne to follow him, saying, he was going to Limehouse.

They walked together through many streets and obscure lanes and passages, till they came into the fields; when Mr. Fayne observed, that they could not be in the right road; but the other pretended not to understand him. They proceeded to the fields near Islington, when Mr. Fayne became greatly alarmed, and expressed much uneasiness, for which, indeed, he had sufficient cause; for his treacherous companion, going behind him, struck him

him a violent blow on the back of his head, which occasioned him to fall to the ground.

The unfortunate gentleman lay for some time in a state of total insensibility; but upon recovering the use of his faculties, he found himself entirely naked, and perceived Placket standing near him, with his cloaths and his pocket-book in his hands. In a few minutes Placket made off with his booty, which, exclusive of the cloaths, did not amount to much more than a guinea and a half.

The loss of blood rendered Mr. Fayne so exceedingly weak, that it was with great difficulty he rose and got to a dry ditch, where he had not been long before he perceived a light at the turnpike house in the City-road, and, as well as his weak condition would permit, crept to the spot. The gate-keeper readily admitted him, put him into his own bed, and attended him during the night with such assiduity and tenderness as proved him to be a man of great humanity.

The gate-keeper recommended to his unfortunate guest to send for Mr. Godman, a surgeon of skill and eminence in Old-street. Mr. Fayne was attended the next morning by Mr. Godman; and that gentleman being conversant both in the French and Latin languages, he received a particular account of the cruel treatment his patient had experienced on the preceding night.

Mr. Godman recommended Mr. Fayne to very genteel lodgings in a reputable family in Brick-lane, Old-street, where he attended him with remarkable assiduity and tenderness till he was perfectly recovered. Mr. Fayne was visited in Brick-lane by many of the Norwegian merchants, and other persons of reputation. He liberally rewarded the

the humane turnpike-man, for the kind assistance afforded to a distressed stranger.

Soon after the robbery and cruel treatment of Mr. Fayne, information of the affair was given before justice Welch, who advertised a reward for apprehending the offender; and in a few days he was taken at his lodgings in Gray's-inn-lane. The shirt that Mr. Fayne wore when he was robbed was found in Placket's room; and the person was traced to whom he had sold the cloaths.

Placket being taken before the magistrate for examination, the evidence against him was deemed sufficient to put him on his trial; and he was therefore committed to Clerkenwell-bridewell.

Placket solicited to be admitted an evidence for the crown against a number of accomplices, but was denied; and he afterwards acknowledged that no person was concerned with him in the robbery of Mr. Fayne, and that it was not in his power to give information against any offender.

At the next sessions at the Old Bailey Placket was sentenced to be hanged, and his body to be hung in chains.

He regularly attended divine service in the chapel, and behaved with a decency becoming his unhappy situation during the time that he remained in Newgate.

The place appointed for the execution of Placket was near the City-road; and when he arrived there, he pointed to the spot where he had robbed Mr. Fayne, saying his soul was struck with horror when he reflected upon his cruelty to that gentleman.

Observing his uncle among the croud, he called to him, and pulling a ring from his finger, offered it him; but it was some time before he could prevail

vail upon the uncle to accept it. Having confessed the many robberies he had committed, and employed some time in fervent prayer, he was turned off, amidst an amazing concourse of people.

While he was hanging, the rails on the footway of the City-road were forced down by the pressure of the croud, and a great number of people fell into a triangular hollow*, formed by the meeting of the City and Goswell-street roads; by which accident many were dangerously hurt.

After hanging the usual time, the body was cut down, and conveyed to Finchley-common, where it was put into irons, and hung on a gibbet.

John Placket was executed, and his body hung in chains, on the 28th of July, 1762.

What the intention of Placket was, in requesting to be admitted an evidence for the crown, we pretend not to decide:—If he meant to preserve his own life by accusing the innocent, his guilt must have been aggravated in a terrible degree. Whatever was his design, we may be allowed to observe, that juries cannot be too cautious of reposing too implicit a confidence in the depositions of witnesses who have either immediately or remotely an interested view in the conviction of a prisoner. The evidence of interested parties should not be allowed to have any considerable influence upon the mind, but ought to be considered merely as corroborative proofs of a less disputable nature.

From the case of Placket we may learn, that the approach of death will strike the conviction of guilt into the breasts of the most desperate offenders, and that repeated escapes from justice should not induce

* This hollow is still called Jack Placket's common:

induce the flattering hope of security from a premature and ignominious death. Though the laws of human invention may not in some cases take effect, there is a dreadful tribunal in futurity, where rewards and punishments will be impartially administered.



A Particular Account of JOHN and JOSEPH KELLO, the former of whom was executed for forging a Draught for One Thousand Pounds in the Name of Mr. PARTRIDGE, with Intent to defraud Mess. AMYAND, STAPLES, and MERCER; his Brother, who was an Accomplice in the Fact, being admitted an Evidence against him.

THE principal subject of this narrative was the son of a mercer in an extensive way of business in Houndsditch, who placed him at a grammar school at Ludlow in Shropshire, where he attained a great proficiency in classical learning. His education being completed, he was articulated to a reputable merchant: and soon after the expiration of his clerkship, he procured three hundred pounds for the purpose of establishing himself in business; with which sum he embarked for Virginia; and soon after his arrival there he connected himself in partnership with a person who had been some time settled in that colony in an advantageous branch of trade.

Joseph, the brother of John Kello, had served a Blackwell-hall factor some years in the capacity of a clerk; and in that time he contracted an intimate acquaintance with Mr. Cotton, a packer, of Aldermanbury,

manbury, who was employed to do a great deal of business for a gentleman named Partridge; and from frequenting Mr. Cotton's house, Joseph had frequent opportunities of seeing Mr. Partridge's writing, and became acquainted with many of that gentleman's commercial concerns.

After a residence of about three years in Virginia, John Kello returned to London, and hired lodgings in the neighbourhood of Bloomsbury-square: but being addicted to a life of pleasure, he soon found himself in very embarrassed circumstances.

The situation of Joseph was not more eligible than that of his brother; for he was equally attached to scenes of dissipation, nor was he more inclined than John to industry in his profession, or œconomy in his expences.

With the view of relieving themselves from their embarrassments, they concerted a plan for obtaining a thousand pounds by means of a forged draft in the name of Mr. Partridge; and learning that on the 28th of August he was gone to Harlow, they determined to seize the opportunity of his absence for carrying their villainous plan into execution.

Joseph having taken one of the checks under the firm of Amyand, Staples, and Mercer, from Mr. Cotton's compting-house, carried it to his brother, at the Red-Lion alehouse in Moorfields, and there filled it up in a hand very nearly resembling Mr. Partridge's writing. The counterfeit instrument was now inclosed in a letter to Mr. Cotton, purporting to be the writing of Mr. Partridge, desiring him to receive the thousand pounds expressed in the draft in one bank-note, and leave it under cover at the bar of Sam's coffee-house, directed for Mr. Rous.

The letter inclosing the counterfeit draught was dispatched by a porter, who, upon delivering it, was asked by Mr. Cotton who was his employer; in reply to which, he said, he had received the letter from a gentleman in the street, and that no answer was required.

The hand of Mr. Partridge being imitated with great nicety, Mr. Cotton had no suspicion of an intended fraud, and immediately set out for the banker's house in Cornhill, where he presented the draft to Mr. Mercer, who, after checking him for coming after the usual hour of paying money, paid the thousand pounds in one bank-note.

Mr. Cotton immediately went to the coffee-house, and sealed the note in a cover, which he directed to Mr. Rous; but after waiting about three hours, in expectation of seeing the gentleman, he returned home, taking the note with him, and leaving word at the bar for Mr. Rous to call at his house in Aldermanbury.

When Mr. Cotton got home, he found Joseph Kello there, and mentioned to him, that, as the sum Mr. Partridge had authorized him to receive was considerable, he judged it not prudent to leave the note at the coffee-house, lest some mistake or accident should happen.

Hereupon Joseph went to his brother, who was waiting at Seymour's coffee-house in Pope's-head alley, whence they dispatched a chairman to Mr. Cotton with a verbal message, as from Mr. Partridge, desiring him to leave the note for Mr. Rous at the coffee-house.

Joseph now returned to Mr. Cotton, and presently after him came the porter, and delivered his message. Mr. Cotton set out for the coffee-house, being desirous of giving the note into the possession of

of Mr. Rous; and upon enquiring for a gentleman of that name, the landlady said, he had been gone from the house only a few minutes, but had left word that he should return in a short time. John, who waited to receive the note under the name of Mr. Rous, went out of the house upon observing that the messenger did not return alone.

Mr. Cotton, recollecting that Mr. Partridge had connexions in trade with a gentleman named Rous, who lived at Hackney, concluded that he must be the Mr. Rous for whom the thousand pounds were intended; and after waiting at the coffee-house till near midnight, he left a note at the bar, intimating that he would the next morning wait upon Mr. Rous at Hackney with the bank-note.

Upon going home he found Joseph Kello at his house, and gave him an account of his conduct. Joseph Kello intimated, that he was apprehensive Mr. Partridge would be highly offended upon learning that the note was not delivered according to his order. Mr. Cotton, however, still adhered to his resolution of keeping the note till he could dispose of it without hazard; and he directly went to the post-office, with a letter to Mr. Partridge, assigning reasons for his conduct in the affair.

Joseph slept at Mr. Cotton's that night; and the next morning (which was Sunday) he informed his brother of Mr. Cotton's design of going to Mr. Rous at Hackney. It was now agreed that another letter, as from Mr. Partridge, should be written to Mr. Cotton, purporting that he (Partridge) had received notice by express that Mr. Rous had not received the note, and desiring the directions contained in his former letter might be immediately fulfilled.

This letter they artfully sent, under cover, to Mr. Partridge's house; and that gentleman's porter carried it to Mr. Cotton, who had set out for Hackney, but stopped for refreshment at the Sun alehouse at London-wall, where the porter found him. In consequence of the forged letter, Mr. Cotton immediately went to Sam's coffee-house, and there left the note in a cover directed for Mr. Rous. Joseph learning that Mr. Cotton had acted agreeably to the pretended order of Mr. Partridge, communicated the circumstance to his brother, who went to the coffee-house, and received the note under the name of Mr. Rous.

On the day the note was obtained by John, Mr. Cotton and Joseph dined together; after which the brothers met by appointment, and went into the fields near Sadler's-wells, where the cover was opened, and the enclosed bank-note taken out. They then adjourned to John's lodgings in Bloomsbury, where it was resolved that he should set out in a post-chaise for Bristol, in order to procure cash for the note; and Joseph borrowed ten guineas for his expences on the road.

Not being able to obtain the money at Bristol, he proceeded to Bridgewater in Somersetshire, where the clerk to the receiver-general of the land-tax changed the note. He had no sooner received the cash than he travelled post to London, and took up his residence with a woman of the town in a street near Westminster-abbey. He gave the woman with whom he cohabited a bag, in which was the cash received in exchange for the bank-note, desiring her to take care of it, and saying it contained halfpence to the amount of five pounds.

Joseph Kello being taken into custody, charged on suspicion of the forgery, he made use of some expressions

expressions which seemed to convey an indirect accusation against his brother; and after he had been particularly questioned respecting the affair, it was agreed to admit him an evidence for the crown, in case of John's being apprehended.

The postilion who had driven John to town recollected the place where he had ordered his trunk to be conveyed; and that circumstance facilitated the discovery of his lodgings, where he was taken into custody by Sir John Fielding's men, who recovered more than nine hundred pounds of the money obtained by means of the counterfeit draft.

John Kello being brought to trial at the Old Bailey, his brother's evidence was exceedingly strong, and supported by a great number of corroborative circumstances; and he was therefore convicted of the crime alledged in the indictment.

When he had been a short time in the cells of Newgate, he was visited by the ordinary, to whose advice, however, he refused to attend, saying that the religious principles he had long entertained he would maintain till death.

Being summoned to attend prayers, he refused, saying he was a dissenter. Hereupon Mr. Akerman sent him word, that he might be attended by a minister of his own persuasion; but that his presence in the chapel was expected; and to the latter part of the message Mr. Akerman is supposed to have been induced by an unwillingness to trust him in the cells alone, the servants belonging to the prison being engaged in attending the other prisoners during divine service.

He obstinately persisted in refusing to be attended by any dissenting minister; and nearly to the
end

end of his life appeared to be totally indifferent as to the necessary preparations for eternity.

When the morning on which he was to be executed arrived, the ordinary put several questions to him respecting his sentiments of the doctrines of christianity, in which he declared he entertained a firm belief, and that pride alone had suggested whatever reasons he had given for an opinion to the contrary.

At the place of execution, he acknowledged his guilt with every appearance of unfeigned contrition; but his voice was so low, through a very decayed state of health, that he was to be heard only by those who were in or very near the cart. Being asked by the ordinary, whether he forgave his brother; his answer was, that he forgave him as far as he could "consistent with humanity." His devotions being concluded, he was turned off; and, after hanging the usual time, his body was delivered to his friends, by whom it was privately interred in a decent manner.

John Kello was executed at Tyburn on the 13th of October, 1762.

From the above narrative we may learn, that, however nearly allied by blood and friendship, no obligations will be found sufficient to prevent our best friends from becoming our accusers, when they are impelled by the double motive of self-preservation and the desire of making some reparation for the crimes they have committed.

It would be a difficult point to determine which of the brothers had the greatest share of guilt. Perhaps the ignominious death of John was not a more severe punishment than what was sustained by Joseph; for it is scarcely to be supposed that any favourable change of circumstances could restore him

him to happiness, after having proved so material an instrument in producing the destruction of a brother.

Wealth is desirable only as the means of procuring the conveniencies and comforts of life : but let our readers remember, that when it is obtained by unjustifiable actions, the consciousness of guilt will perpetually obtrude upon the mind, wholly disappoint, or take off the relish of every promised enjoyment, and leave us miserable slaves to the tyranny of continual alarms and dreadful apprehensions !



Account of DANIEL BLAKE, who was executed at *Tyburn* for the *Murder* of JOHN MURCOTT, Butler to Lord DACRE, including the Criminal's Exhortation to the Populace on the Morning of his Execution.

BLAKE was the son of a butcher at Bunwell in Norfolk, who brought the youth up to his own business. When he was about twenty years old he became dissatisfied with his trade, and travelled to London with an intention of hiring himself as a gentleman's servant ; and he had been but a short time in the metropolis when he was engaged in the service of lord Dacre.

Blake having contracted an acquaintance with some women of abandoned character, resolved to support the expences subsequent thereon by robbing his fellow-servants. He had been in the service of lord Dacre about ten weeks, when he
deter-

determined to carry his iniquitous plan into execution; and going into the room of Mr. Murcott, his lordship's butler, he repeatedly struck him with great violence on the head with a poker, and then, taking a knife from his pocket, cut his throat almost from ear to ear.

After the barbarous murder of Mr. Murcott, Blake took twenty guineas from the breeches-pocket of the deceased, and then returned to his bed. He rose about seven, and went to his usual business; and in about an hour he was desired to call Mr. Murcott; on which he said he had already called him two or three times, but had not been able to make him answer.

Lord Dacre's bell ringing about nine, the porter went into the chamber of the deceased, and repeatedly called him; he then approached the bed, and shook Mr. Murcott, and, finding him still silent and motionless, exclaimed, "God bless me! "I believe he is dead:" he then turned down the bed-cloaths, which the murderer had thrown over Mr. Murcott's face, and perceiving them bloody, he quitted the room in great terror, and communicated his discovery to the house-keeper and lady Dacre's waiting-maid, who, going into the room, turned the cloaths a little further down, and observed a knife, which they supposed to have fallen from the hand of the deceased, and attempting to move the body, the head inclined backwards, and gave the wound a most shocking appearance.

Upon the rest of the servants being informed of Mr. Murcott's unhappy death, Blake shed tears in great abundance, wrung his hands, and appeared to be affected in so extravagant a degree, that he was urged to moderate his affliction, lest the nobleman and his lady should be alarmed.

Mr.

Mr. Murcott's death being communicated to lord Dacre, he sent for Mr. Marsden, clerk to Sir John Fielding, and kept him in the house three days, with the view of discovering the perpetrator of the horrid fact.

During the time that Blake had been in the service of lord Dacre, he was known to be in very indigent circumstances: but on the day after the murder he was observed to discharge several small debts; and hence arose a suspicion of his guilt.

All the servants in the family being strictly examined in the presence of lord Dacre, the porter declared that he firmly believed that the knife found in the bed belonged to Blake.

Being taken into custody, and conducted to Sir John Fielding's, he voluntarily acknowledged himself guilty of the horrid fact, and was committed to Newgate in order for trial.

At the ensuing sessions at the Old-Bailey he was put on his trial; and his own confession being corroborated by very strong circumstantial evidence, he was found guilty, and sentenced to be executed.

While he was in Newgate he proved that he had but very imperfect ideas of his duty towards the Almighty, and confessed that he had not read a chapter in the bible, or attended to any other religious book since leaving school. While he was under sentence of death, his behaviour was decent and penitential. The day before his execution he said his mind was perfectly calm, and that his ease increased as the time of his death approached; adding that he had a full confidence of salvation through the merits of his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Being brought into the press-yard, he said; while his irons were knocking off, "You seem to look at me with earnestness. You were all born; but you know not in what manner you will die. Let my fate warn you to keep the Sabbath, and honour your parents." At the place of execution he addressed the populace to the following effect: "Be careful to attend divine worship; profane not the Sabbath; repent of your sins, and make a timely peace with God. Behold the consequence of my iniquities! Fear God, and honour your parents; for neglecting which I must suffer a disgraceful death."

Daniel Blake was executed at Tyburn on the 26th of February, 1763; and his body was hung in chains on Hounslow-heath.

We cannot be too careful in our endeavours to avoid connexions with lewd women, who, when they have once gained an influence over us, will, though conscious of our pecuniary incapacity, exert their power to obtain supplies for their extravagance; and it is too frequently that their solicitations induce the unhappy dupes to their artifices to seek resources in such actions as lead to infamy and death.



A Narrative of the Case of WILLIAM HARROW, who was executed for *House-breaking*; with an Account of the singular Manner in which he was apprehended.

THIS malefactor was a native of Hatfield in Hertfordshire, and brought up to the business of a bricklayer. Having a genius turned for architecture, he got considerable employment among

among the gentlemen of the county, with whom his ingenuity rendered him a favourite; but unhappily taking to the low and cruel sport of cock-fighting, he neglected his business, and associated with the most abandoned of company.

He had likewise a propensity to poaching; and the game-keeper of a gentleman near Hatfield having detected him in a fact of this kind, Harrow threatened his destruction: the consequence of which was that he was lodged in Hertford gaol; but before the time of holding the quarter-sessions he broke out, and made his escape.

Hereupon a reward of fifty pounds was offered for taking him into custody. Made desperate by this circumstance, he took to robbing on the highway, and the depredations he made were very numerous; and he obtained the name of the Flying Highwayman, by his horse's leaping the several turnpikes, so that he constantly escaped detection.

At length he embarked with three other fellows in a scheme that cost him his life. An old farmer, named Thomas Glasscock, had, by a very extraordinary degree of parsimony, accumulated a considerable sum, of which these abandoned men determined to rob him; whereupon they went to his house, on the pretence of being peace-officers who were come to apprehend some deserters. The old gentleman refused them admittance: on which they forced their way through the window, and binding Mr. Glasscock and his house-keeper, they searched the house, when finding a tea-chest which contained three hundred pounds, they seized it, and departed.

Having divided the booty, they separated; and Harrow, taking a girl with him as a companion, travelled into Gloucestershire, and putting up at

an alehouse in a small village, and assuming the character of a sailor who had brought home prize money to a considerable amount, he continued for two months without any suspicion arising. At length a quarrel happened between some of the customers of the house and Harrow, when a scuffle ensued, and a pistol in one of Harrow's pockets going off, a suspicion arose that he was a highwayman; on which he was carried before a magistrate for examination.

Nothing like proof arising to criminate him, he was dismissed; but not thinking it prudent to remain any longer, he set out with his girl, but did not tell any one the road that he intended to travel.

Very near the time that he departed, one of the magistrates of Gloucestershire received a letter from Sir John Fielding, requesting that he would order a search for one William Harrow, who stood charged with having committed a variety of robberies in the neighbourhood of St. Albans.

Hercupon the magistrate sent some persons in pursuit of him, who having traced him to Worcester, made such enquiries as led them to think he was gone towards Wolverhampton. Taking this road, they found him in bed with his girl, and having taken him into custody, he was conducted to prison at Gloucester.

By a writ of Habeas Corpus he was removed to Hertford, where he lay till the assizes, when he was indicted for robbing Mr. Glasscock, and being convicted on the clearest evidence, was sentenced to die.

A number of clergymen visited him after conviction, and laboured to convince him of the necessity of making an immediate preparation for eternity.

He

He was likewise visited by his mother, who burst into tears at the sight of her wretched son.

On the night before his execution he sawed off his irons, with an intent to have made his escape; but he had not quite time enough to effect his purpose. When the gaoler came in the morning, he said he would have saved the hangman his trouble, if he had not come so soon; and threw at him the irons, which he had by this time got from his legs.

Before he was put in the cart, a sermon was preached on the occasion of his fatal exit. Immense numbers of people attended at the place of execution, to see the last of a man who had made himself dreaded through the country by the enormity of his conduct.

William Harrow was hanged at Hertford on the 28th of March, 1763, but no account is transmitted us what became of his companions in the burglary.

We see, in the case of this malefactor, that a superior degree of skill in any profession is not likely to be attended with success, unless it be accompanied with sobriety, and directed by the most upright intention. Not content with the reputable profits of his profession, this man commenced poacher, a practice that is ever attended with poverty; and took delight in cock-fighting, which though it be sometimes pursued as a diversion among people whose birth and education entitle them to associate with the higher ranks, is a practice undoubtedly disreputable to the lowest; nor is it in a small degree disgraceful to our legislature, that this horrid custom is not restrained by the highest penalties.

There

There is something proudly noble in the native spirit of our English game-cocks; but surely nothing can be more ignoble than the spirit of that man who can arm them with artificial weapons, and, urging them to the fight, can, for the sake of winning a trifling wager, enjoy the bloody contest.

From the whole of the case of the malefactor before us, persons of better breeding should learn not to set ill examples to their inferiors; and those in lower life should consider, that a steady pursuit of their lawful callings affords the only probable chance they can have of living in any degree of credit and respect.



A full and particular Narrative of the Cases of ANNE BEDDINGFIELD and RICHARD RINGE, who were hanged at *Tyburn*, for *Petit-Treason*.

JOHN Beddingfield was the son of respectable parents at Sternfield in Suffolk, and having married a girl of seventeen years of age when he was about twenty-four, the young couple were placed in a good farm, which was carefully attended by Beddingfield, who bore the character of a man of industry and integrity. The young couple had two children, and lived in apparent happiness till near the time when the shocking event happened which gives rise to this melancholy tale.

Richard Ringe, a youth of nineteen, was engaged in the service of Mr. Beddingfield; nor had he been long in the house before his mistress became so enamoured of him, that her husband

was

was the object of her contempt. Her behaviour to Ringe was such that he could not long doubt of her favourable inclinations; nor had he virtue to resist the temptation; and they were so incautious in their proceedings, that four of the servants were occasional witnesses of their criminal intercourse.

At length Mrs. Beddingfield, having formed the horrid design of destroying her husband, communicated her intention to Ringe, who hesitated on the dreadful proposal, nor consented till she promised that he should share her fortune as the reward of the deed.

Mrs. Beddingfield, blinded by her passion, was now so much off her guard, as to say very indiscreet things to her servants, which might lead them to presume that she had determined on the most deliberate wickedness; of which the following is given as one instance. As she was dressing herself one morning, she said to her maid-servant, "help me to put on my ear-rings; but I shall not wear them much longer, for I shall have new black ones. It will not be long before somebody in the house dies, and I believe it will be your master."

Extravagant as this declaration was, the behaviour of Ringe was not at all more prudent. He purchased some poison, and told one of the servant maids, that he would be her constant friend if she would mix it with some rum and milk that her master drank in a morning; but the girl declined having any concern in so horrid a transaction; nor did she take any notice of the proposal that had been made till after the commission of the murder.

Mr. Beddingfield happening to be indisposed, it was recommended to him to take a vomit; but the water

water which the servant-maid brought him to drink proving to be too-hot, Ringe was directed to bring some cold water to mix with it; and he took this opportunity of putting arsenic into the water; but Beddingfield, observing a white sediment in the basin, would not drink, though no suspicion of the liquor being poisoned had occurred to him.

Henceforward the intentional murderers resolved not to think of having recourse to poison; but devised another scheme of dispatching the unfortunate object of their vengeance. Mr. Beddingfield having been selling some cattle to another farmer, they had drank a sociable glass together, but not to such a degree as to occasion intoxication.

When Mr. Beddingfield came home, he found that his wife was in bed with one of the maid-servants; on which he desired her to come to his chamber, but this she refused, and mutual recriminations passed between them.

It had been determined by Ringe to commit the murder on that night, while his master was asleep; whereupon, when he knew he was in bed, he quitted his own room, passed through that in which his mistress slept, and went to the bed-chamber of his master.

Ringe, observing that Mr. Beddingfield was asleep, threw a cord round his neck to strangle him; but, being hurt by the weight of Ringe lying across him, he struggled so that they both fell off the bed together. However, the horrid deed of murder was soon perpetrated.

Mrs. Beddingfield, being asleep in the next room, was awaked by the noise, and in her fright awakened the servant. At this instant Ringe entered the room, and said, "I have done for him;" to which the wife answered, "Then I am easy."

The

The girl was greatly alarmed ; but cried out, “ master,” supposing Mr. Beddingfield was present ; for there was no light in the room : but Mrs. Beddingfield commanded her to be silent.

Ringe asked the mistress if any one was acquainted with what had passed besides her and the maid ; on which the girl asked, “ How came “ you here, Richard ? ” The villain, terrified by his guilt, replied, “ I was forced to it.” He now went to his own room, and laid down ; and the mistress and maid getting up, the latter was charged not to utter a syllable of what had passed.

Mrs. Beddingfield now directed the girl to call Ringe, who seemed offended at being disturbed ; but, when he had struck a light, his mistress told him to go into his master’s room, for she was afraid that he was indisposed. Ringe obeyed ; but, on his return, said, with an air of surprize, that his master was dead.

By this time another maid-servant was got up, and the girls, going to their master’s room, found the deceased lying on his face, and observed that part of his shirt-collar was torn off, and that his neck was black and swelled.

A messenger was instantly dispatched to Mr. Beddingfield’s parents, who proposed to send for a surgeon : but the wife insisted that it was unnecessary to send for a doctor, as her husband was already dead.

On the following day the coroner’s jury took an inquisition into the cause of his death ; but so superficial was the enquiry, that it lasted only a few minutes, and their determination was, that he died a natural death.

The guilty commerce between the murderers now became still more evident than before ; but

so fickle was Mrs. Beddingfield's disposition, that in a few weeks she began to despise the man whom she had incited to the murder of her husband.

The servant-maid now resolved to discover the fact, but postponed the doing so till she had received the wages for her quarter's service. When her mistress had paid her, she went to her parents, and discovered all she knew of the matter: on which a warrant was issued for apprehending the murderers. They had an item of what was going forward, and therefore attempted to bribe the girl's mother to secrecy; but she rejected their offers: on which Mrs. Beddingfield made her escape, but was apprehended at the end of two days. Ringe, however, seemed to disdain to consult his own safety, but remained in the house; and, after he was committed to prison, he confessed that he had deemed himself a dead man from the time of his perpetrating the murder.

At the Lent assizes in 1763 the prisoners were brought to trial, when the surgeon and coroner were examined as to what fell within their knowledge. The former confessed that he saw evident marks of violence on the body; and being asked how he could depose before the coroner, that Mr. Beddingfield had died a natural death, he replied that he did not think much about it. A strange, and almost unaccountable declaration!

The preceding part of this narrative will lead the reader to judge of the rest of the evidence that was given on the trial; and the prisoners, having nothing to alledge in extenuation of their crime, were capitally convicted, and sentenced to die.

After conviction, as well as before, Ringe freely confessed his guilt; but expressed the utmost anxiety at the thought of being dissected. Mrs. Bed-

Beddingfield refused to make any confession till the day before her death.

They were placed in one sledge on the morning of execution, and conveyed to a place near Ipswich, called Rushmore, where Ringe made a pathetic address to the surrounding multitude, advising young people to be warned, by his fate, to avoid the delusions of wicked women, and to consider chastity as a virtue.

After the fervent exercise of devotion, he was turned off; while the body of Mrs. Beddingfield, who had been first strangled at a stake, was burning to ashes, agreeable to the practice respecting women who are convicted of the murder of their husbands.

These malefactors suffered at Rushmore on the 8th of April, 1763.

From the fate of this woman girls should be taught never to think of giving their hands in marriage to a man, if they are not certain of his having full possession of their hearts: and if, after marriage, any disagreeable circumstances should arise, they should patiently recollect, that they have drawn an inevitable lot, and endeavour by a kind and obliging behaviour to conciliate the husband's affection; but by no means to think of violating the laws of chastity, without a proper observance of which, jealousy, and all its horrid train of consequences, must ensue; and marriage, otherwise the happiest state in life, be rendered the most miserable.

From the ignominious death of Ringe, young men should learn not to listen to the seducing tongue of female beauty; but, having lived a life of virtue till they can obtain each some worthy

woman in marriage, do justice to the preference by which they may be distinguished!



Recital of the Particulars of the Case of JOHN RICE, who was hanged at *Tyburn* for *Forgery*; with an Account of his Behaviour before and after Sentence of Death.

THIS unhappy man, whose character was unimpeached till the discovery of the affair which cost him his life, was the son of Mr. Rice of Spital-square, a considerable stock-broker, whose behaviour had rendered him esteemed by all who knew him, and the profits of whose profession enabled him to support his family in a stile of the utmost decency.

Young Rice having received a liberal education, succeeded his father in his business, and was so successful as a broker, that his profits were estimated at twelve hundred pounds a year.

Unhappily for himself, he lived in too gay a manner, having a country-house at Finchley, an elegant town house in John-street near Gray's-inn, and keeping a coach, chaise, chariot, and several livery servants, besides a negro boy: yet still it is probable that Mr. Rice might have supported his credit, but that, flushed with success, he wished to grow still richer than he was, which led him on to that species of gaming called speculating in the stocks, by which he suffered so greatly, that, at different times, he was said to be a loser to the amount of sixty thousand pounds.

In the vain hope, however, of recovering his circumstances, he was tempted to the commission of forgery. Among other of his employers was a Yorkshire lady, named Pierce, who had a very considerable property in South-Sea stock. In the name of Mrs. Pierce, Rice was adventurous enough to forge letters of attorney, by which he received upwards of nineteen thousand pounds.

Mrs. Pierce having occasion to come to town soon after these transactions, Rice, hearing of the intended journey, thought it necessary to consult his safety in flight. Hereupon he took a post-chaise for Dover, and embarked in the packet-boat for Calais, where he soon landed.

Hence he travelled to Cambray, a city in French Flanders, and the seat of an archbishop, which he had been taught to consider as a privileged place, where he could remain unmolested: it appears, however, that this is not the case; for the archbishop of Cambray, though a prince of the empire, is subject to the parliament of Tournay, and had therefore no power to protect a criminal fugitive.

Whether Mrs. Rice knew of her husband's design previous to his departure, or by letter from him, is uncertain; but she determined to follow him, and taking a post-chaise, reached Harwich, where she embarked in the packet for Holland, designing to travel thence to Cambray; but the wind proving contrary, the vessel was obliged to put back to Harwich, whence Mrs. Rice returned to London, proposing to reimbarc on a future occasion.

It is probable that Mrs. Rice now apprehended herself in security; but she had no sooner arrived in London than she was taken into custody, and being carried before the lord mayor, bank-notes

to the amount of £. 4700 were found sewed up in her stays. On her examination, she acknowledged whither her husband had retired; and the crime with which he was charged being thought to affect public credit, our ministry dispatched a messenger to the English ambassador at Paris, desiring that he would use his interest with the people in power in France, to have the culprit delivered up to the justice of the laws of his native country.

This requisition was instantly complied with; and orders being sent to Cambray to secure Mr. Rice, notice was transmitted to London, that he was in custody: on which one of the clerks of the Bank, and another of the South-Sea house, went over with one of the King's messengers, to bring the unhappy man to England.

On their arrival at the prison of Cambray, they found the presumed culprit in a state of great dejection. They were proceeding to have hand-cuffed him; but he fell on his knees, and with tears implored that they would dispense with this disgraceful circumstance. They generously complied; and Rice was placed in one post-chaise with the messenger, the gentlemen preceding them in another.

Having embarked for Dover, they landed, and proceeded immediately towards London. The news-papers having mentioned what had happened respecting Mr. Rice, the public curiosity was so much excited, that crowds of people attended at every place where they stopped, to take a view of the unfortunate prisoner.

On his arrival in London, he was carried before the lord mayor, who remarking the utmost candour, even to generosity, in his answers to the questions that were proposed to him, committed him

him to the Poultry-compter, instead of sending him to Newgate; presuming that his situation might be rendered less disagreeable in the former prison than in the latter.

Mr. Rice was kept in the Poultry-compter till the morning appointed for his trial, when he was taken to the Old Bailey in a coach, where he was indicted for the forgery on Mrs. Pierce. Lord Mansfield presided on this occasion; and when the evidence had been given, and the jury had brought in a verdict of "Guilty," the prisoner looked up to the judge with a countenance of extreme distress, imploring that he might be recommended to the mercy of the sovereign.

In answer to this, lord Mansfield advised him not to flatter himself with hope of that mercy which there was no probability of being extended to him. His lordship farther said, "considering your crime, and its consequences, in a nation where there is so much paper credit, I must tell you, I think myself bound in duty and conscience to acquaint his majesty, that you are no object of his mercy." His lordship farther observed, "that all public companies should take warning, by the present instance, carefully to examine all letters of attorney, for the more effectual prevention of fraud."

After conviction, as well as before, Mr. Rice gave every sign of the most sincere contrition. While under sentence of death, he made the most serious preparation for the important change that awaited him. He expected the warrant for his execution some days before it arrived; and when it came, the fatal news was concealed from him till his wife, who was then present, had retired.

It is recorded, to the credit of Mr. Rice, that, before he quitted the kingdom, he sent for his tradesmen's bills, and discharged all those that were delivered.

Mr. Rice's friends petitioned that he might be allowed a coach to the place of execution; but this favour was denied, and he was placed in a cart, and attended by a faithful friend, who, though all the rest of the world had deserted him, was too generous to leave him till the last fatal moment.

His behaviour on the day of execution was so exemplary, that the multitude could not refrain from tears; and perhaps no man ever ended his life at the fatal tree more universally lamented.

This unhappy man suffered at Tyburn on the 4th of May, 1763.

The mother of Mr. Rice was living at the time his misfortunes commenced; and her friends, anxious to alleviate her distress, told her that her son was taken ill at Cambray: they then added, that his life was despaired; and at length said, that he was dead. The old lady lived at Stoke-Newington; and when, on the day after execution, the cryers of dying speeches made their perambulations, the inhabitants of Newington, with a generosity that will ever do them honour, gave the poor people money not to cry the speeches near her house.

A commission of bankrupt having been taken out against Rice, his effects were sold by auction, and among the rest his negro boy.

After the many reflections we have made on the crime of forgery, it will be little necessary to remark on this in any particular instance; but the circumstance of selling the negro by auction demands the severest reprehension. Good God! shall people

ple who call themselves christians, who profess to be governed by the mild doctrines of the gospel, expose a fellow-creature to sale like a beast in a market ?

What has the negro done, or what is there in his complexion, or the place of his birth, that can be presumed to warrant so vile an insult ? We well remember that, at the time of this event, the circumstance was severely and justly reprehended in the news-papers ; nor was there a feeling heart in the whole kingdom, that did not subscribe to the justice of the remarks made on the more than savage insensibility, of the exquisite unfeelingness of such conduct. The crimes of the poor unfortunate Rice seemed to be almost forgot, in the idea that his creditors could so far forget themselves, as to offer to sale the person and liberty of a fellow-creature !



A full Account of the Case of PAUL LEWIS, who was hanged at *Tyburn* for shooting at a Person on the Highway ; with several Particulars respecting his Birth and Education.

THIS offender was born at Horsemonseux in Suffex, and was the son of a worthy clergyman at that place, who put him to a grammar-school at a very early age ; but such was his aversion to study, that he made not any reasonable degree of progress : on which his father took him home, with an intention to have instructed him himself ; but, finding that he had no propensity

to learning, he procured him to be entered in the train of artillery.

Thus situated, he discovered much of that vanity which is but too common among military men. He was so remarkably extravagant in dress, that he soon became indebted to his taylor in the sum of £. 150 and being afraid of an arrest, he absconded, and then entered on board a man of war.

Being much addicted to acts of dissipation, it was almost impossible for him to be honest while an opportunity offered of being otherwise. Being soon disgusted with the life of a seaman, he quitted the service, and commenced highwayman, but not till he had defrauded several sea-officers of considerable sums of money.

Having thus began his iniquitous course of life, he went to a public-house in Southwark, staid great part of the day, and supped ; and then going to an inn, hired a horse, and riding out between Newington-Butts and Vauxhall, stopped a gentleman and his son in a post-chaise, and having robbed them, returned to the public-house in Southwark.

Being apprehended for this offence, he was brought to trial at Kingston, when the people of the public-house swearing that he had not been absent from noon till midnight more than half an hour, he was acquitted.

After this he committed a variety of robberies, and was twice in imminent danger of that fate which at length overtook him, of which we shall now proceed to relate the particulars.

Lewis and an accomplice having robbed a gentleman and lady in a post-chaise near Paddington, the robbers rode some miles together, and then agreed to part, and commit their depredations separately.

Not long had they parted, when Lewis stopped a gentleman, named Brown, and demanded his money. Mr. Brown resisted the highwayman with such determined resolution, that Lewis fired at him, but happily without effect.

At this juncture Mr. Brown's horse took fright, and threw him; but being little injured, he soon recovered, and saw Lewis in the custody of Mr. Pope, a constable, who had got him down, and was kneeling on his breast; a circumstance that arose from the following accident: Mr. Pope being riding on the same road, a gentleman and lady told him they had been robbed by two highwaymen, and desired him to be cautious; but this induced him to ride forward the faster, and he arrived at the critical spot in a short time after the robbery was committed, and seized Lewis.

Pope desired Mr. Brown to ride after the other highwayman who had been on the road; but at this instant Lewis arose, and, presenting a pistol, swore he would shoot Pope. The latter, however, was in no degree intimidated, but knocking the pistol out of his hand, threw him down, and secured him in the manner above-mentioned; after which he tied his hands behind his back, and searching his pockets, found ten pistol-bullets in them.

The highwayman was conveyed to New-prison, where having lain one night, he was taken before a magistrate, who committed him to Newgate.

At an ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey he was brought to trial. The evidence against him was exceedingly strong. He attempted, indeed, to make a kind of defence; but it amounted to nothing, and the jury finding him guilty, he received sentence of death.

During his confinement in Newgate, his behaviour did not in any degree correspond with his wretched circumstances, of which the following instance will serve as a proof. His unhappy father having paid him a visit, and making him a present of twelve guineas, he concealed one of them within the sleeve of his coat, and then told his father that he had received only eleven. The father, unsuspecting of design or artifice, gave his son another guinea; and no sooner was the old man gone, than the son boasted how he had imposed on him.

The ordinary of Newgate represented the behaviour of Lewis in a very unfavourable light; hinting, among other things, that he had threatened his life, declaring that he should never again have an opportunity of attending a criminal under sentence of death. The unhappy Rice, whose case is the subject of the preceding narrative, being one day in the chapel, with a view to receive the sacrament, Lewis demanded an admittance to the same solemn service; but being refused, unless he gave some proof of penitence, he said to the ordinary, "Whether I am fit or not, what is that to you? Damn you! I will lick you before I have done with you, unless you give me it. I am as good a christian as you, you scoundrel."

This malefactor was greatly the object of public conversation, and his behaviour in Newgate was thought to be hardened in a high degree. He appeared to have been a man of very weak intellects, though some considerable pains had been taken in his education. A few days before his death, he sent a letter, of which the following is a copy, directed to James Eyre, Esq; who was then Recorder of London.

"Worthy

“ Worthy Sir,

“ I beg pardon for the liberty I have taken in
 “ addressing myself to you; but on seeing a person
 “ in court, who was the chief instrument of my
 “ ruin, shocked me so much, as to prevent me
 “ from saying what I intended before the dreadful
 “ sentence was passed on me: I am sorry I have
 “ occasion to mention my family, or my services to
 “ my country; but hope your condescension will
 “ be such as to pardon the intrusion. As I am
 “ descended from Laud, Archbishop of Canter-
 “ bury in the reign of king Charles I. and from
 “ the Roberts’s and Walpole’s; my grandfather,
 “ on my mother’s side, was chaplain to the Tower
 “ of London; and, on my father’s side, chaplain to
 “ lord Scarborough: my present father chaplain to
 “ a noble peer, and has many more children, most
 “ of whom have served the government all this
 “ war: humbly hope, that in regard to an ancient,
 “ and no less reputable family, you will report me
 “ to his majesty as favourably as the circumstances
 “ of this unhappy affair will admit.

“ Being kept so many sessions before tried, and
 “ afterwards kept in for debt, drove me to such
 “ distress, as to render me destitute of the neces-
 “ saries of life; and finding my character gone,
 “ never to be retrieved in England, my intention
 “ was, as soon as I could get a little money, to go
 “ to admiral Lewis, (a near relation of mine) in
 “ the Russian service, and to have retrieved my
 “ character in that country, which I unfortunately
 “ lost in my own.

“ Therefore, Sir, I must again entreat you to
 “ intercede with his majesty in my behalf, that
 “ I may be transported for life; and as I am not
 “ twenty-three years of age, should I be so happy
 “ as

“ as to experience his majesty’s lenity, hope yet to
 “ prove myself a friend to society. When a man,
 “ Sir, is bereft of his character, despised, and dis-
 “ armed, forsaken of all his friends, any action he
 “ does must partly be connected with a degree of
 “ madness.

“ If this should not be enough to prejudice you
 “ on my behalf, I hope, Sir, when I acquaint you
 “ that I had the honour of serving his late and
 “ present majesty for seven years, as cadet, mid-
 “ shipman, and lieutenant ; and, as far as my
 “ abilities would allow, ever discharged my duty ;
 “ particularly at the taking of Senegal, the burn-
 “ ing the ships in Conallen-bay, the reduction of
 “ Cherbourg, the unfortunate battle of St. Caffé,
 “ the siege of Guadaloupe, and the engagement
 “ under Sir Edward Hawke, and several engage-
 “ ments with privateers and frigates ; these my
 “ services, I hope, will induce you to endeavour
 “ to save my life, which may be the means of
 “ preventing my poor brothers and sisters from
 “ being orphans, and the grey hairs of my aged
 “ parents falling untimely to the grave. Which
 “ intercession on my behalf shall be ever gratefully
 “ acknowledged by,

“ Your most unfortunate, and distressed

“ Humble Servant,

P. LEWIS.”

This malefactor was admitted to the sacrament on the morning of his execution, and during the service he dropped on the ground, but was almost immediately taken up, and re-seated : soon after which he took up a pen-knife, (which it was supposed had fallen when he fell) and held it up as in token of gratitude, for having been providentially pre-

pre-

prevented from the commission of suicide; and he afterwards confessed, that he had kept that pen-knife in his pillow from the time that he had become a prisoner; but that Mr. Akerman, having gone into his room, prevented his putting it to the horrid use for which it was intended.

When Lewis was arrived at the fatal tree, he looked round him with a face of inexpressible anguish, and then addressed himself to the multitude in the following terms:

“ This dreadful sight will not, I believe, invite
 “ any of you to come here, by following my example; but rather to be warned by me. I am
 “ but twenty-three years of age, a clergyman’s
 “ son, bred up among gentlemen: this wounds me
 “ the deeper; for to whom much is given, of them
 “ more is required.—My friends, I entreat you all
 “ to avoid such offences as may bring you here,
 “ on every account, especially for the sake of your
 “ families. Let the memory of my evil actions die
 “ with me, and do not reflect on my aged father.
 “ Hitherto I have been a disgrace to all that knew
 “ me: were I to begin my life again, I should live
 “ an honour to society.”

This malefactor suffered at Tyburn on the 4th of May, 1763.

Perhaps enough has been already said of Paul Lewis, to let the reader fully into his character. The circumstance of his cheating his generous father of a guinea, when he was himself in such calamitous circumstances, affords a striking proof of the utter depravity of his mind.

Obedience to parents, next to that we owe to the great Father of us all, is one of the first duties of natural religion, and strictly enjoined in holy writ. Perhaps there never was an instance of

an undutiful son who was happy when he himself became a father; nor has he who has neglected his own duties a right to expect duty and obedience from others.

Young people cannot reflect on this circumstance with too much seriousness; nor too often repeat that divine command, "honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."



Account of the Life, Trial, Conviction, and Execution of WILLIAM CORBETT, who was hanged at *Deptford* for *Murder*.

THIS malefactor was a native of the town of Portsmouth, in New Hampshire in America, and bred a shipwright. His mother dying when he was very young, he ran away to Connecticut in New England, where he entered on board a sloop, and made two or three voyages; but not living so well as he expected on board the ship, he deserted; and when he came to Boston he contracted himself with a gentleman who dealt in lumber, which he sent in vessels to the West Indies; and Corbett made several voyages in his service, but was so addicted to drinking and theft, that he received frequent correction for those vices.

At length he sailed to Newfoundland with one captain Warton; and, as he was a good ship-carpenter, might have been happy in his situation, but his irregularities obliged the captain to dismiss him; on which he procured employment in repairing fishing-boats, and other craft; but, spending his

his earnings in great extravagance, he involved himself in debt, which obliged him to embark in the night on board a ship for Barbadoes, to avoid a prison.

When he came to that island, he drank new rum to such an excessive degree, that he was twice taken up as dead; and was at length obliged to quit the island on account of his ill behaviour. After this he sailed to several parts of North America, and at length settled at Halifax in Nova Scotia, where he worked some years as a ship-carpenter; after which he sailed to England, and associated with the worst of company in Wapping and Rotherhithe, which tended still farther to debauch a mind already much depraved.

Having received a few pounds as wages, he soon spent the money; and, having sold or pawned most of his wearing apparel, he engaged with a gang of men employed in rigging ships, but was soon dismissed, on account of some petty thefts of which he had been found guilty.

He now sailed to Rotterdam, whence he soon returned to England, and procured employment as a ship-builder; but was not long in that business before he was discharged, on account of his irregular behaviour.

After this he entered into the service of a bum-boat man, whose business consisted in supplying vessels on the river with necessaries; but the master being apprehended, and committed to prison, for receiving stolen goods, this connexion was soon dissolved.

A few weeks before Corbett committed the crime which cost him his life, he took lodgings at the house of Mr. Knight, a publican at Rotherhithe; nor had he been long in the family, which con-

sisted only of the man, his wife, and the maid-servant, before he resolved on the murder of them all; but the maid-servant escaped his fury, as will hereafter appear.

At the assizes for the county of Surry, which began at Kingston on the 29th of March, 1764, William Corbett was indicted for the murder of Henry Knight, and Anne his wife, by cutting their throats; and was again indicted, on the coroner's inquest, for the said murder; and a third time for robbing the house; and was found guilty on his own confession, and a variety of collateral evidence.

What he acknowledged after conviction, with some other circumstances, will apprise our readers of the horrid nature of this transaction.

He owned that he first killed Mrs. Knight, by cutting her throat, and giving her several wounds in the body, three of which (according to the deposition of the surgeon on the trial) would probably have proved mortal, if the throat had not been cut. Having in his confusion mislaid his knife, he murdered Mr. Knight by cutting off his head with a saw, which he found in his bed-chamber. He was much in liquor at the time that he perpetrated these murders; and not knowing where the maid-servant slept, her life was happily preserved; and she was afterwards a material evidence against him on the trial.

After having committed the murders, he rifled the house of money, and even put on some of Mr. Knight's linen and other cloaths. He now went to Billingsgate, with an intention of going down the river in the Gravesend-boat: but he was so much intoxicated, that he was incapable of taking the proper steps for his personal security; so that the
officers

officers of justice had no difficulty in apprehending him.

After conviction, he acknowledged that he endeavoured to set fire to Mr. Knight's house. On the day of execution he was conveyed to Kennington Common, where he again acknowledged his guilt, and having spent about a quarter of an hour in devotion, underwent the sentence of the law.

The body being cut down, was conveyed to the New-gaol, and on the following day was hung in chains in the road between Rotherhithe and Deptford.

This malefactor suffered on the 4th of April, 1764.

The case of Corbett affords a strong proof that an indulgence in smaller crimes will lead to the commission of greater. His vices were drunkenness and theft; and these at length induced that hardness of heart which tempted him to think of imbruing his hands in the blood of his fellow-creatures.

From his fatal example let us learn to guard ourselves from every approach of evil; never to gratify the passions at the expence of reason; but consider strict integrity in all our actions as one of the greatest cements of society.

The man who wilfully deprives himself of his reason, by an attachment to drinking; is beneath a brute; and he who adds injustice to the other vice, is but too well prepared for the commission of any crime, however enormous.

Let temp'rance all our conduct guide,
And honour mark our way;
So through this world we safe may glide
To realms of endless day!

A full Account of the very extraordinary Case of JOHN WESKET, who was hanged at *Tyburn* for a *Burglary* in the House of the Earl of HARRINGTON ; with a Narrative of the singular Circumstances that led to his Detection.

THIS offender had been for years a servant to different gentlemen, and it is said that he injured more than one of his masters ; but it is known that he and an accomplice named Bradley robbed the house of a gentleman in Hatton-garden, with whom the latter lived, and likewise robbed the chambers of Mr. Montague, a master in chancery.

Wesketch was engaged as a porter to Lord Harrington in the year 1762 ; but continued his acquaintance with Bradley, and was likewise intimate with a man named Cooper, who kept a chandler's shop in Little Turnstile, at whose house Bradley lodged ; and both these men visited Wesket at his new place.

Wesketch having formed a plan for robbing his noble master, imparted his design to the other two. Taking frequent opportunities of going to his lordship's study, he sometimes saw him counting money at his bureau, which seems to have given him the first idea of the robbery ; and he took notice of the drawer in which the money was put.

The earl having received a large sum from his tenants, told his house-steward that he proposed to pay his tradesmen with it ; the steward mentioned this circumstance to Wesket, that he might inform the tradesmen ; with a hint that something hand-
some

some would be expected out of their respective bills *.

Wesketch being now assured that there was a considerable sum in the house, determined on the speedy execution of the robbery; and he and Bradley agreed to commit it on the following Saturday night, when lord and lady Harrington were to go to the opera, which would give Wesket an opportunity of concealing his accomplice in the house.

Bradley went to his lordship's about eight o'clock at night, taking with him a brace of pistols, which they had determined to use in case of interruption; and likewise a tinder-box, which they resolved to leave in his lordship's study, to prevent its being suspected that the robbery might be committed by any of the servants.

Wesketch secreted Bradley in his chamber, whither he carried him some meat and a bottle of wine, and told him to remain there till about midnight, when he would come to him; nor had the other servants any suspicion of his being in the house.

Lord Harrington and his lady came from the opera about twelve at night, and in less than two hours afterwards, when all the family were quiet, Wesket went to his accomplice, and took him into the kitchen, where an impression from Bradley's dirty shoes was made on the dresser, and they then made a similar impression in the area, first leaving the

* This custom of laying the tradesmen who serve our nobility and gentry under contribution, is deserving of the severest reprehension; for the principal is certain to be imposed on, that the tradesman may support his own family, and administer to the luxuries of his employers servants.

the kitchen window open, as an intimation that the robber had gone off that way.

They now went into the study, where they lighted a candle; and Wesket having forced open the bureau by means of a gimblet and a chissel, they took out notes, jewels, and money, to the amount of two thousand pounds, all which Wesket consigned to the care of Bradley, bidding him carry the booty to Cooper; and then let him out at the street-door, and went to bed.

Cooper having been requested by Bradley to sit up for him, he went immediately to his house; but as he was gone out, the other went to seek him, and finding him at a bad house, they adjourned to another house, where they remained drinking till it was break of day, and then went home, where Cooper having examined the ill-gotten booty, he dug a hole in his cellar, where he buried the jewels, and deposited the notes and cash in a drawer.

While one of the Earl of Harrington's maid-servants was lighting the fire in the steward's room in the morning, Wesket went to her, and enquired if she had let any person into the house. She said she had not; but added, that she had found the street-door open. On this Wesket swore that the door must have been left open by some person who had got into the house.

When lord Harrington went into his study, he discovered the depredation that had been made in his property; whereupon a strict search was made through the house, to find which way the thief had escaped; and now it was that the impression of Bradley's shoes were noticed on the dresser and in the area, as already mentioned; but as it was
observed

observed that no footsteps appeared except in the kitchen and area, it was presumed that some person within the house had committed the robbery.

The chissel, gimblet, and tinder-box were found by the steward, who interrogated Wesket respecting the robbery; and some suspicion arising that he had a concern in it, Lord Harrington sent for a magistrate, who questioned all the servants in the strictest manner; and Wesket, in whose pocket ten guineas were found, was turned away on the presumption of his guilt, though nothing arose that could justify the magistrate in committing him to prison.

He was no sooner dismissed than he went into one of the boxes of Covent-Garden theatre, when Bradley, happening to see him from the gallery, waited for him at the playhouse-door after the entertainment was over. Wesket having informed his companion of what had passed since the robbery, Bradley told him what booty had been obtained, and desired him to come to Cooper's and inspect it. They accordingly met on the following day; when Bradley, representing the danger of trying to put off the notes in London, proposed to attempt it at Chester fair.

This being agreed to, Bradley went to the fair, where he purchased a quantity of linen, for which he paid the notes to the Irish dealers, and received the balance in cash.

The villains now seemed to think themselves secure; but after a whole year had passed from the commission of the robbery, for the discovery of which £. 200 had in vain been offered, a circumstance, seemingly trivial in itself, led to a development of the whole mystery.

A woman of the town happening to fall into company with a gentleman, she told him that she
had

had been ruined by Wesket, who had been discharged from lord Harrington's service on suspicion of having robbed his master; that Wesket was intimately acquainted with a man named Bradley; and that, since the robbery, Wesket had lived and appeared as a gentleman.

With this intelligence the gentleman went to Sir John Fielding, who caused Wesket to be taken into custody; but, after three strict examinations, he was discharged in defect of evidence.

In the interim, great endeavours were used to find Bradley; but for a long while in vain. The earl of Harrington having kept the number of one of the notes of which he had been robbed, it was carried to the Bank, where the payment of it was stopped, and it was traced through the hands of many persons to those of Mr. Smith, a Liverpool merchant, who said he took it of Mr. Breath, a linen-factor at Newry in Ireland.

Mr. Breath being written to, his answer was, that he received it of a person at Chester fair, who said his name was Walker, and was dressed like a gentleman, but had nothing in his behaviour that could warrant his assuming that title.

On this lord Harrington's steward went to Chester, to endeavour to learn where the supposed Walker had lodged during the fair; which he found to have been at the house of a shoemaker, named Rippington. He learnt farther, that Walker had set out for London in a post-chaise, and on his arrival in the metropolis had written a letter, desiring that a pocket-book, which he had left behind him, might be sent to the St. Clement's coffee-house in the Strand.

The steward having received this letter brought it to London, and delivered it to Sir John Fielding, who sent for the woman of the town above-mentioned, who declared that it was of Bradley's writing. Hereupon the active magistrate above-mentioned caused several persons to attend at the coffee-house ; but no discovery arose from this diligence.

At length it was learnt that Bradley's father lived in Clerkenwell ; and he being questioned respecting his son, gave him but an indifferent character, and said that he had not seen him for a considerable time.

Bradley's person was now described in hand-bills, which were circulated through the kingdom, and a reward offered for taking him into custody.

At this juncture a hackney coachman declared in a public-house, that in his hay-loft was a large chest belonging to one Bradley, and that Cooper had delivered the chest to his care, but he knew not its contents. On this Cooper was sent for to Sir John Fielding's ; and strong suspicions of the guilt both of him and Wesket arising, they were committed to Newgate for trial.

In a few days Bradley was found, dressed in seamen's apparel, at a public-house in Wapping, and being conducted to Bow-street, he made such a declaration respecting the robbery, that Sir John Fielding thought proper to admit him an evidence against the other parties.

At the next sessions at the Old Bailey Wesket and Cooper were brought to trial, when the former was capitally convicted for the burglary, and sentenced to die ; and Cooper was sentenced to be transported for fourteen years, as the receiver of the stolen effects.

After conviction, Wesket's behaviour was highly improper for his circumstances. He denied his guilt, endeavouring to exonerate himself by charging Bradley and Cooper with having been the sole perpetrators of the crime. In vain were any exhortations given him; he was deaf to good advice, and went to the place of execution with a white ribband in his hat, as a final declaration of his innocence.

This malefactor suffered at Tyburn on the 9th of January, 1765.

When we reflect seriously on the preceding narrative, we shall be struck with astonishment at that want of caution in thieves which could tempt them to place an implicit confidence in each other. Wesket trusted Bradley with the fruits of their iniquity unexamined; and Bradley trusted them in the same incautious manner with Cooper. It is known that the maxim of "honour among thieves" is false: but most likely these men were thrown off their guard by their own guilt, a circumstance by no means to be wondered at.

The apparently trifling accidents which led to the detection of these offenders, should teach us that the eye of Providence is constantly regardful of our actions, and frequently advances its wise purposes in a way the least evident to human comprehension!



Description of the savage Cruelty of BARNEY CARROL, and WILLIAM KING, who were convicted on the Coventry Act, for *Maiming and Defacing*.

CARROL and King had both been soldiers, and as such behaved unexceptionably, particularly at the siege of the Havannah, where Carrol was distinguished by his bravery : but, on their return to England, they determined to commence robbers, and this on a plan attended with the most infernal cruelty.

They procured two boys, named Byfield and Matthews, who were to pick pockets, and in case they were seized, the men were to procure their release, by cutting the parties who held them across their faces with a knife.

Carrol having sharpened his weapon of destruction, they all went out together on the night of the 17th of June, 1765, and continuing their rout from Covent Garden to the Strand, saw a gentleman named Kirby near Somerset-house, who was walking very slowly on account of the heat of the weather ; which made them think him a proper object of attack.

On this Carrol directed Byfield to pick the gentleman's pocket. Byfield had got his hand in the pocket, when Mr. Kirby seized him, and threatened to carry him before a magistrate, but only to terrify him from such practices for the future.

On this the other three villains followed Mr. Kirby so closely, that he suspected their connexion ; but he still held the boy, to frighten him the more, though he observed Carrol sometimes before and

sometimes behind him. At length the villain came so near, that the boy cried out, "Keep off, the gentleman will let me go: when Carrol replied, D—n him! but I will cut him."

A gentleman named Carr coming up at this juncture, and observing what was going forward, desired Mr. Kirby to consult his safety, for that a gang of villains surrounded him. Kirby now requested Mr. Carr to walk after him, to prevent an insult; with which he complied; but still the rascals did not quit their iniquitous design.

Carrol, running past Mr. Carr at the end of Arundel-street, cut Mr. Kirby across his nose and eyes in the most forcible manner, calling out, "D—n you! let the boy go."

This assault being observed by Mr. Carr, he seized Carrol's arm, and at this instant Kirby, letting go the boy, struck at Carrol, but the blow happening to fall on Mr. Carr's hand, the villain made his escape. The rogues then ran off towards St. Clement's church, and escaped through an alley into Wych-street, though closely pursued by the gentlemen.

Mr. Kirby now felt great pain, but had no idea that he had been wounded by any sharp instrument, apprehending that his pain proceeded only from a common blow. At length he found a defect in his sight, and presumed that dust had been thrown in his eyes; but putting his hand to his face, he found that it streamed with blood.

Going to the Crown and Anchor tavern in the Strand, Mr. Ingram, a surgeon of eminence, almost immediately attended him; but, though the utmost expedition was used in calling in the assistance of that gentleman, Mr. Kirby had lost near two quarts of blood in the short interval.

On examination it appeared that the wound was given in a transverse direction, from the right eye to the left temple; that two large vessels were divided by it; that there was a cut across the nose, which left the bone visible; and that the eye-balls must have been divided by the slightest deviation from the stroke.

The surgeon immediately dressed the patient; but it being thought necessary to have the advice of a physician, Dr. Morris was called in, who seemed greatly apprehensive of an inflammatory fever. As the patient continued very ill on the following day, the assistance of another surgeon was procured, and every necessary step was taken to recover him.

Measures were now thought of for the discovery of the villains who had been guilty of such an act of unprovoked barbarity. Dr. Morris made application at Sir John Fielding's office; and from the description he gave of the miscreants, as he received it from Mr. Kirby, their persons were recollected by Sir John's people, and warrants being issued for their apprehension, they were all taken into custody on the very next day.

When brought to examination, it was thought proper to admit the two boys evidences for the crown; on which Carrol and King were committed for trial.

Being indicted at the next sessions at the Old Bailey, they employed council, who endeavoured to start a point of law in their favour; urging, that the indictment charged them with having *slit* Mr. Kirby's face, whereas the words of the statute were to "maim and deface;" and therefore the prisoners could not be capitally convicted.

On this the opinions of some surgeons of eminence were taken, who agreed that a transverse cut
bore

bore the same meaning as a slit ; and said, “ that
 “ Wiseman, who lived at the time the Coventry
 “ act was made, understood, and, in his treatise
 “ on surgery, always used *divide* and *slit* in the
 “ same sense.”

The court, after due consideration, and having heard all the pleas of the council, determined that the crime of the prisoners was within the meaning of the statute ; so that, the evidence being clear, the jury gave a verdict of guilty, and they were sentenced to die.

After conviction they expressed very little concern at their unhappy situation ; and being both Roman catholics, they were attended by a priest of their own persuasion ; so that little can be known of their repentance.

At the place of execution, Carrol declared that he was not anxious on his own account ; but expressed his sorrow for King, whom he had seduced to the commission of the crime, which forfeited the lives of both to the justice of their country.

When their bodies had hung something more than an hour, they were delivered to their friends to be buried.

These malefactors suffered at Tyburn on the 31st of July, 1765.

The attempt made by the council to clear these men of the punishment so justly due to their enormous crime, is worthy of remark. There was no doubt of their guilt, yet could the council gravely urge, that cutting a man's face to pieces was not defacing him. It is said that the laws of our country should be literally attended to ; but surely, in this case, there was a distinction without a difference : but lawyers have no objection to the
 recep-

reception of fees, and they must say something for their money. Chicanery is a part of their trade, and too many of them seem to think it an essential part.

With regard to the crime itself, it cannot be necessary even to caution our readers against the commission of it. No man, who is not lost to all sense of his duty to God, would wilfully deface the image of his Creator, by a crime more horrid, if possible, than murder itself. From the sin of wanton cruelty, may the God of infinite mercy deliver us!



Account of the singular Crimes of CATHERINE NAIRN*, and PATRICK OGILVIE, who were convicted of *Incest* and *Murder*, for which Ogilvie was executed, but Mrs. Nairn escaped from the Justice of her Country.

AS the case of these malefactors made a great noise in the world at and after the commission of the crime, we shall be the more careful to give all the particulars of it.

At East-Miln, in the county of Forfar in Scotland, lived Mr. Thomas Ogilvie, a man of moderate fortune, whose life was of the domestic kind, with his mother, till he was about forty years of age, when he married Catherine, the beautiful daughter of Sir Thomas Nairn of Dunfinan, on the 31st of January, 1765, the young lady being then about 21 years of age.

Patrick

* It may be proper to observe, that in Scotland women are called by their maiden names after marriage. Hence this unhappy woman is called Nairn instead of Ogilvie.

Patrick Ogilvie, the brother of Thomas, having served as a lieutenant in the East Indies, returned to Scotland soon after the celebration of the nuptials, and went to congratulate his brother on the occasion.

From this visit arose all that scene of distress which gives rise to the following narrative ; for Patrick having beheld his sister with eyes of unwarrantable love, they were seen within three weeks after the wedding, by the servants, walking in the fields with too great familiarity, and kissing each other with all the fondness of enraptured lovers.

Soon afterwards Anne Clarke, a kinswoman of Mr. Ogilvie, paying a visit in the family, remarked a great intimacy between the lovers, who frequently went to bed together without the precaution of shutting the chamber-door. Mrs. Clarke remarked on the scandalous impropriety of her conduct ; but, so far from blushing at it, she boasted of her love for her brother-in-law, with whom she said she would abscond, or otherwise give a dose to her husband, whom she detested.

Mr. Ogilvie the elder was of so pacific a disposition, that, though the criminal conversation became every day more conspicuous, he contented himself with representing to his brother how much he dishonoured the family by so sinful a practice ; but he did not even forbid him the house.

At length he paid the lieutenant a sum of money bequeathed him by his father ; and then Patrick departed, to take the diversions of the country : but he still corresponded with his sister-in-law ; and they left letters for each other under a stone, and even occasionally met together in the fields.

When this was known, the injured husband, so far from resenting the conduct of his brother, wrote to him, expressing his inclination to bequeath him both his wife and the principal part of his estate, saying he would consult his own peace of mind in retirement: he even intreated him to return, adding “ my wife cannot be happy without you.”

Mrs. Nairn had, in the mean time, written to Patrick Ogilvie, to send her some poison; and accordingly he sent her some white arsenic, under the name of salts, for her use.

Mrs. Clarke above-mentioned no sooner heard that the packet was arrived, than she cautioned Mr. Ogilvie not to drink any thing given him by his wife, unless she first partook of it; but this precaution proved fruitless, for the unhappy man being ill one morning, his wife conveyed a quantity of the arsenic into a basin of tea which the maid-servant was carrying to him; and then the base woman waited at his bed-side while he drank it.

The most excruciating pains in his bowels, accompanied with a violent retching, was the consequence of this draught, and at nine at night Mr. Ogilvie expired in the greatest agony.

His brother now gave directions respecting the funeral; but, in the mean time, Mrs. Clarke wrote to a younger brother of the deceased, who was then a student at Edinburgh, intimating her suspicions that Mr. Ogilvie had been poisoned. Hereupon the young gentleman set out for East-Miln, being determined to enquire into the real state of the case: He took with him the under sheriff of the county*,

VOL. IV. No. 38.

N n

and

* There is no such officer in Scotland as a coroner; which is to be lamented, as in cases of this kind the inquisition of a coroner's jury is often of the highest importance.

and two surgeons. The under-sheriff recommended opening the body of the deceased; but as he had been dead six days, and as it was now the middle of June, and the weather intensely hot, this was opposed by the surgeons, lest some noisome effluvia should arise from the body.

The presumed murderers were now taken into custody, and committed to the prison of Forfar, whence they were removed to Edinburgh, to take their trials in the high court of justiciary. Mrs. Clarke had concealed herself from the time that the murder was committed; but on the 3d of August, 1765, she went to Edinburgh, and surrendered herself to the lord advocate, as the trials of the offenders were to commence on the Monday following. Hereupon his lordship committed her, and two women-servants of the deceased, to the castle, that there might be no obstruction to the course of public justice.

The prisoners being brought into court on the appointed day, a copy of their indictments, with a list of the jury and witnesses, was respectively delivered to them; and then the court was adjourned to the 12th of the same month, at eight in the morning.

In the interim, the council for the prisoners petitioned the court, that Anne Clarke might be removed * from her usual place of confinement with the servant-maids, lest she should prevail on them to perjure themselves, to the prejudice of the prisoners.

The

* In one of the narratives transmitted to us, Mrs. Clarke is represented as a woman of most abandoned character; and this may account for the petition above mentioned.

The court granted the prayer of this petition ; and Mrs. Clarke was removed into another room ; but lord George Beauclerk, the then commander in chief of the forces in North-Britain, caused her to be conveyed to her former place of confinement, on an information that the room in which the governor of the castle had placed her was not secure enough to prevent her escape.

Complaint of this procedure being made by the council for the prisoner, lord George insisted that it was his duty to prevent the escape of the evidence, notwithstanding any order of court.

The trial was at length proceeded upon on Monday the 12th of August, and continued without intermission till three o'clock on the Wednesday morning, when the jury retired, and at four in the afternoon of that day gave their verdict that the prisoners were both guilty.

The lord advocate now demanded that judgment should be passed on them ; but this was opposed by their council, who urged that there were several informalities in the trial, which would destroy the force of the verdict, as they were incompatible with the principles of the laws of Scotland.

On this a debate ensued, which continued near five hours ; when the lord justice clerk declared, that, unless a special plea was stated in arrest of judgment, he would pronounce sentence against the prisoners.

Hereupon it was agreed, that, on the following day, at eleven o'clock, the arguments in writing should be delivered into court ; and when that was done, a farther argument of six hours ensued thereon.

The council for the prisoners, having at length no other plea left to urge, hinted that Mrs. Nairn

was with child, but did not pretend to say how far she might be advanced in her pregnancy.

On this, sentence of death was passed against Patrick Ogilvie, to be executed on the 25th of September, in the Grass-market, Edinburgh; and Mrs. Nairn being remanded to prison, orders were given for a jury of matrons to be summoned on the following day, to enquire into her real situation.

The court being once more assembled, the matrons were sworn and retired, and, on their return, declared that they could not determine whether she was pregnant or not. On this the judgment against her was suspended till November; and the matrons were directed to visit her frequently in the interval.

The utmost interest of the relations of the convicts was now exerted to prevent the disgrace of a public execution, by procuring a reprieve for Mr. Ogilvie, who constantly asserted his innocence respecting the death of his brother.

Such diligence was used in this matter, that counsellor M'Carty was heard in his behalf before the king in council, where he contended for a right of appealing from the decision of the court of justiciary to the house of lords.

The lord advocate of Scotland, in reply hereto, insisted that the determination of the court of justiciary must be final, as it was a criminal court, in which the prisoner had been tried and convicted by a jury of his countrymen. He referred to the 19th article of the act of Union, by which the court of justiciary was established.

The matter having been maturely considered, Mr. Ogilvie was left to suffer the sentence of the law.

The day before his death he was attended by two clergymen, and several of his friends, to whom he made a solemn avowal of his innocence of the facts alledged against him; and thought that his brother, who had undertaken the prosecution, had behaved in a manner undeservedly rigorous; yet he declared that he should die in perfect charity with all mankind.

At the place of execution he made an address to the populace, still asserting his innocence; and, as soon as he had concluded his devotions, he was turned off, amidst an immense concourse of people. No sooner was he turned off, than, the rope slipping, he dropped to the ground; but being immediately tied up again, he said aloud, "I adhere to my former confession, and die an innocent man." This being said, he was executed, and his body delivered to a surgeon for dissection.

This unhappy man suffered in the Grass-market at Edinburgh, on the 13th of November, 1765.

Mrs. Nairn having remained in custody till November, it then appeared that she was pregnant; on which she was respited till the time when she should be brought-to-bed, which was in the month of January, 1766.

After she had been delivered a month, an order was issued for her execution; but, a short time before this event would have taken place, she escaped from the prison at nine at night, in the uniform of an officer; and an old footman, who had lived in her father's family, being waiting for her with a post-chaise, they set off together.

Mrs. Nairn was not missed till near noon on the following day; and persons were sent express to re-apprehend her; but she had arrived in London before them.

She now engaged the master of a Dutch fishing-smack to carry her to Holland, for fifty guineas; but the wind blew with such violence, that he was obliged to land her on the Kentish shore; whence she travelled to Dover, attended by her faithful servant. They immediately got on board the packet-boat bound for Calais; and no authentic accounts respecting her have transpired since that period.

Such were the different fates of two people, who, as far as we can judge of the affair, appear to have been involved in the same crime. The one dies, avowing his perfect innocence; the other escapes the immediate stroke of justice, which was suspended over her by the most slender thread!

Mysterious are the ways of Providence, and, in the language of Scripture, "past finding out;" but it is for mortals humbly to submit to all its dispensations!

One pertinent remark will naturally arise on this occasion, on the absurdity of disproportionate marriages. Mr. Thomas Ogilvie was nearly twice the age of his wife; and had therefore much the less chance of happiness with her.

The band of marriage will be frequently found to be a rope of sand, where fortune is made the sole consideration on either side, and where unity of mind, and a tolerable equality in age, are not consulted.

We make this remark for the sake of those parents who may be tempted to compel their children to unequal marriage, on the idea that riches alone can bestow that happiness, which must generally, if not always, depend on *consent of mind*!



Account of the horrid Barbarities committed by PETER M'KINLIE, GEORGE GIDLEY, ANDREW ZEKERMAN, and RICHARD ST. QUINTIN, who were executed for *Piracy* and *Murder*; including a particular Narrative of the very extraordinary Revolutions of Fortune experienced by CAPTAIN JOHN GLASS, one of the Victims to the savage Cruelty of the above Malefactors.

THE unfortunate captain Glas, whose adventures will be the principal subject of this narrative, was the son of Mr. John Glas, a minister of the church of Scotland, who in several publications zealously opposed the practice of religion according to particular and established forms. The adherents to his religious opinions obtained the appellation of Glassites; and his doctrines being first propagated in England by Mr. Sandeman, his son-in-law, those who adopted them were called Sandemanians.

At a very early period young Mr. Glas afforded strong proofs of an acute and penetrating understanding, greatly beyond what could be reasonably expected at his tender years. After the fine genius of this promising youth had received some cultivation at a respectable grammar-school, he was removed to the university, where he attained to a great proficiency in the sciences. Having taken up the degree of Master of Arts, he applied himself to the study of physic and surgery, in which he made a rapid progress. He afterwards engaged as surgeon on board a trading vessel bound to the coast

coast of Guiney; and in that capacity made several voyages to America.

His superior qualifications gained him a distinguished place in the esteem of several capital merchants, who entrusted to him the command of a vessel in the Guiney trade; and his conduct proved highly to the advantage of his owners, and equally honourable to himself.

When the war against France was declared, captain Glas, upon a minute review of his affairs, found himself in possession of a very considerable sum, a great part of which he determined to venture on board a privateer.

He caused a vessel to be fitted out with all possible expedition, and took the command on himself. A mutiny happened among the sailors when they had been on board about three days; and news of this disagreeable circumstance being communicated to the captain, he hastened to the vessel, and going upon deck, dared to single combat any man who should presume to dispute his authority: but his challenge was declined; and by coolly representing the dangerous consequences that might result from such unjustifiable proceedings, exhorting them to an exact observance of necessary discipline, and assuring them that his utmost endeavours should be exerted to procure them satisfaction in every particular, the harmony and good understanding of his crew were restored; and in a short time the vessel proceeded on her voyage.

In about ten days they made prize of a ship, richly laden, belonging to France, which they carried into a port in the West-Indies. They soon after engaged two ships of war, but, after an obstinate contest, were compelled to submit to the superior power of the enemy: the captain, however,
did

did not strike his flag till he had received a dangerous wound on the shoulder, and the greatest part of his men were slain. He was put into one of the French prisons, where he experienced very severe treatment.

An exchange of prisoners taking place, Captain Glas was no sooner restored to freedom than he resolved to make a reserve of two thousand pounds, and to venture all the rest that remained of his fortune on board a privateer. He had sailed in his second vessel but a short time, when he was again conquered by the enemy, and conveyed to a French prison.

Captain Glas, on his return to England, was esteemed one of the most expert, judicious, and intrepid seamen in the British navy. The war being concluded, he conceived a design of sailing in search of discoveries; and, in pursuance of this plan, he purchased a vessel adapted to his purpose, and, having carefully made every necessary preparation for the prosecution of his design, directed his course towards the coast of Africa.

Between the river Senegal and Cape de Verd he discovered a commodious harbour; from which circumstance he entertained the reasonable expectation that very great commercial advantages would be derived.

The captain now returned to England, and communicated his discovery to administration, who granted him an exclusive trade to the harbour for the space of twenty years. That he might be enabled to pursue his project with the greater advantage, he engaged in partnership with two or three gentlemen of fortune; and a vessel, furnished with all necessary articles, being prepared, he sailed for the harbour, where he arrived without meeting with any occurrences worthy of recording.

He sent one of his men on shore with orders for offering proposals for a commercial intercourse with the natives: but the messenger had no sooner landed, than he was cruelly murdered by the barbarians. The captain now suggested a plan for informing the king of the country, that by opening a trade his subjects would derive great advantages. The king affected the utmost willingness to comply with his proposals; but, under the appearance of friendship, endeavoured to effect his destruction. Having failed in other treacherous schemes, he sent poisoned provisions to captain Glas, who prudently made experiments upon them, and by that means preserved his life.

Being in great distress for the necessaries of life, captain Glas and three of his men ventured to sea in an open boat, intending to direct their course towards the Canaries, for the purpose of purchasing provisions. The natives, being apprized of their departure, attempted to plunder the ship: but they were effectually repulsed by the remaining part of the crew.

The men who continued in the vessel being extremely distressed, judging that it would be dangerous to remain longer in the harbour, and despairing of their captain's return so early as was expected, they sailed for England, where they arrived after encountering a variety of dangers, difficulties, and distresses.

Capt. Glas arrived at one of the Canary islands, and presented a petition to the governor, supplicating permission to purchase provisions: but the inhuman Spaniard caused him to be apprehended as a spy, and ordered him to be confined in a noisome dungeon, where he was allowed no other sustenance than bread and water, and to aggravate his distress

distress the barbarous tyrant denied him the use of pen, ink, and paper.

In this unhappy situation the captain remained upwards of six months. At length he climbed up to the iron bars that were across the space for admitting light to the dungeon, and perceived an English vessel in the harbour. The sight of a vessel belonging to his native country inspired him with hopes of regaining his liberty: but his despair was renewed upon considering the apparent impossibility of making his miserable fate known to those who would be inclined to afford him relief.

At length he adopted the following expedient: by means of a piece of charcoal he wrote his name and some words intimating his distress upon a biscuit, which he fortunately dropped from the grate of the dungeon at the moment when an English sailor was passing beneath. The man, observing the captain's name upon the biscuit, carried it to his commander, who immediately made application to the governor for the relief of his countryman. In consequence of this humane intercession, the cruel and tyrannical Spaniard subjected the petitioner to severity of treatment equal to that sustained by captain Glas.

A ship that soon afterwards sailed for England conveyed news to our ministry of the arbitrary and barbarous conduct of the governor; and speedy application being made to the king of Spain, he issued an order for the release of the two captains.

About the time that captain Glas recovered his freedom, his wife, and daughter, a young lady about twelve years old, remarkable for her beauty and fine accomplishments, arrived at the Canaries on board a ship from London; and their first interview with him afforded a scene truly affecting.

Captain Glas now embarked, with his wife and daughter, on board a ship bound to London, under the command of captain Cockeran.

While the ship lay at the Canaries, a plot was concerted between Peter M'Kinlie the boatswain, a native of Ireland, George Gidley the cook, born in the west of Yorkshire, Richard St. Quintin a native of the same county, and Andrew Zekerman a Dutchman, for murdering all the other persons on board, and seizing the treasure, which, including what captain Glas had shipped in behalf of himself and his partners, amounted to an hundred thousand pounds in dollars.

The villains made three attempts on different nights to carry their horrid plan into execution, but were prevented through the circumspection of their commander. The conspirators were appointed to the night-watch on the thirteenth of November, when the ship had reached the British Channel; and, about midnight, the captain going upon the quarter-deck to see that all things were disposed in proper order, he, upon his return, was seized by the boatswain, who held him while Gidley struck him with an iron bar and fractured his skull, after which they threw him into the sea. Two of the seamen, who were not concerned in the conspiracy, hearing the captain's groans, came upon deck, and were immediately murdered and thrown overboard.

Capt. Glas being alarmed, went up the gang-way, and, judging that a mutiny had happened, returned to fetch his sword. M'Kinlie, guessing his design, followed him down the steps leading to the cabin, and waited in the dark till he returned with a drawn sword in his hand, when getting unperceived behind him, he seized both his arms,
called

called to his accomplices to murder him. Captain Glas, being a very powerful man, had nearly disengaged himself from the ruffian, when Zekerman came up, whom the captain wounded in the arm; but before he could recover his sword he was overpowered, the other villains soon joining their associates. The unhappy man was no sooner disarmed, than he was many times run through the body; after which he was thrown overboard.

Mrs. Glas and her daughter now came on deck, and falling on their knees supplicated for mercy; but they found the villains utterly destitute of the tender feelings of humanity: and Zekerman telling them to prepare for death, they embraced each other in a most affectionate manner, and were then forced from each other's arms, and thrown into the sea.

Having put all the crew to death, excepting a boy who had attended captain Glas, and another boy who was an apprentice on board the ship, the murderers steered towards the Irish coast; and on the third of December found themselves within ten leagues of the harbour of Ross. They hoisted out the long-boat, and put into it dollars to the amount of two tons; and, after knocking out the windows of the ballast ports, rowed towards shore, leaving the two boys to sink with the vessel.

Captain Glas's boy could not swim, and he was therefore soon drowned; but the other lad swam to the boat, when Zekerman struck him a violent blow on the breast, which occasioned him immediately to sink.

Having thus massacred eight innocent persons, the villains proceeded to the mouth of the river Ross; but thinking it would be dangerous to go up the river with so much riches, they buried two hundred and fifty bags of dollars in the sand, and

conveyed as much treasure as they could possibly bear about their persons to a village called Fishertown, where they stopped for refreshment; and, during their regale, an Irishman privately robbed them of a bag containing twelve hundred dollars.

On the following day they went to Ross, and there sold twelve hundred dollars. Having purchased each a pair of pistols, and hired horses for themselves and two guides, they rode to Dublin, and took up their residence at the Black Bull in Thomas-street.

The wreck of the ship was driven on shore on the day of their leaving Ross; and the manner in which the villains had lived at Fishertown and Ross, their general behaviour, and other circumstances, being understood as grounds for suspicion of their being pirates, an express was dispatched by two gentlemen to the lords of the regency at Dublin, exhibiting the several causes of suspicion, and giving a particular description of the supposed delinquents.

On board the wreck was found a sampler worked by Miss Glass, from which it appeared that a part of the work was done on her birth-day, which afterwards proved to be the day preceding that on which the murders were perpetrated; and this sampler proved a principal means of leading to a discovery of the guilt of these abominable villains.

The gentlemen who were commissioned to attend the lords of the regency had no sooner communicated their business than the lord mayor and sheriffs were sent for; and proper instructions being given them, they on the same night caused M'Kinlie and Zekerman to be taken into custody.

The prisoners were separately examined, and they both confessed the particulars of their guilt,
and

and that their accomplices had that morning hired a post-chaise for Cork, where they meant to embark on board a vessel bound for England.

Gidley and St. Quintin were the next day taken into custody at an inn on the road to Cork; and they followed the example of their accomplices, in acknowledging themselves guilty. The sheriff of Ross took possession of the effects found in the wreck, and the bags of dollars that the villains had buried in the sand, and deposited the whole in the treasury of Dublin, for the benefit of the proprietors.

The prisoners being brought to trial, they confessed themselves guilty of the charges alledged in the indictment; and they were condemned to suffer death, and their bodies to be hung in chains in the neighbourhood of Dublin.

The above malefactors were executed near Dublin, on the 19th of December, 1765.

It would be improper to anticipate the reflections that will naturally occur on the perusal of the above narrative; and therefore we shall be concise in our concluding remarks. Conscious that the plain matter of fact cannot fail to impress every humane breast with the most pungent sorrow for the fate of the miserable victims, we shall close this article with a few words particularly addressed to the British seamen.

If, tempted by the hope of acquiring wealth, you should meditate an insurrection against your commanders, reflect that, though you may escape from the dangerous element on which you are embarked, offended justice will not fail to overtake you on land, and consign you to such punishment as may serve to deter others from the commission of similar offences; and that, when you have yielded
your

your lives a tribute to the offended law, the most terrible part of your punishment is yet to ensue; for the day will inevitably arrive, when those who have dared to violate the commands of the Almighty will be condemned to torments that have no alleviation or end.



Account of the principal Incidents in the Life of the notorious RICHARD SWIFT, who was transported for buying Goods, knowing them to have been feloniously obtained.

SWIFT was the son of poor people living near St. Luke's church, Old Street, who gave him some share of education, and bound him apprentice to a turner. During the term of his servitude, he associated with a number of abandoned people, who supported themselves by thieving; and, when the period specified in his indenture was expired, he wasted the greatest part of his time in the company of those profligate wretches at an infamous house in Golden-lane.

Swift, by some means, ingratiated himself into the favour of a brewer, and had the address to interest him so warmly in his behalf, that he put him into a public-house in Old-street, which was known by the sign of the Barley-Mow, and had been long a receptacle for thieves of every denomination.

When Swift commenced landlord, he afforded all possible encouragement to his iniquitous customers, who, after spending the day at his house in blasphemy, drunkenness, and riot, constantly departed

departed on the approach of night, in order to commit depredations on the public.

The persons inhabiting the neighbourhood where Swift lived were so dissatisfied with his conduct, and made such frequent complaints of the irregularities committed by his customers, that he was under the necessity of changing his place of abode; and taking an ale-house near Shoreditch church, he persisted in his usual course of wickedness, instructing thieves in what manner to obtain booties, frequently assisting in the actual commission of robberies, and constantly receiving the goods stolen by his associates.

It is supposed that, before Swift was brought to justice, upwards of twenty men were hanged, and a much greater number transported, whom he had instructed and encouraged in the various arts of thieving; and, though it is known that he was many times committed to Newgate, and the New-gaol, Southwark, for offences of various kinds, he escaped the sentence of the law till he was upwards of fifty years of age.

Swift and some of his associates followed a waggon one evening from Snow-hill to the Cock inn, Aldersgate-street; where Swift, being known to some of the ostlers, left his accomplices, (Fosset, and a Jew named Solomons) giving them directions to steal as many goods from the waggon as they should be able, and bring them to him.

Fosset and Solomons concealed themselves in the yard; and, after waiting some time, observed the ostler and waggoner go into the tap-room together. They seized this opportunity of robbing the waggon, whence they stole a box containing seventy-two pounds of candles. They carried the box to Bishopsgate-street, where they opened it,

but were greatly disappointed upon finding what it contained; for they imagined that they had acquired a valuable booty of plate. They carried the candles to Swift's house; and he gave them a small sum for the stolen goods, in order to encourage them to commit robberies of more consequence.

Fosset being apprehended on suspicion of the above robbery, he was examined by Sir John Fielding, to whom he confessed the particulars of the fact; and Swift having been long known as a daring violator of the laws, it was judged expedient to admit Fosset an evidence for the crown.

In consequence of Fosset's information, Swift was apprehended, and indicted for purchasing goods knowing them to be stolen. The evidence against him being indisputable, he was convicted, and sentenced to transportation for fourteen years.

He had not been in America a month, when he embarked as a passenger on board a vessel bound to Liverpool; and, at the expiration of the year 1764, he landed at that town.

On his way to London he stopped at Coventry, where he was apprehended, and secured in prison. At the ensuing assizes, he was brought to trial before Sir Henry Gould. The record of his former conviction being produced, it appeared that the person who wrote it, in specifying the weight of the candles, had inserted seventy instead of seventy-two. The prisoner, having heard the copy of his conviction read, pointed out the error, and requested the judge to allow him council, which was readily granted. After the case had been argued in a very learned manner, the judge declared that the error was fatal to the indictment, and that the prisoner must therefore be acquitted.

When

When Swift was on the point of being discharged, one of Sir John Fielding's men made oath, that an accusation was lodged against him for stealing a quantity of cotton in the county of Middlesex. Hereupon he was ordered to be conveyed to London.

No indictment was found against him for stealing the cotton; but, being put to the bar of the sessions-house in the Old Bailey, the court ordered him to be transported for the remaining part of his former sentence.

Richard Swift was a second time put on board of one of the transport vessels, on the 24th of April, 1765.

Since the time of Jonathan Wild, the above malefactor was the most notorious receiver of stolen goods by which this country has been infested. If the receivers of stolen goods were to be punished by death, it is beyond a question that great advantages would accrue to the public; for if thieves were to find a difficulty in disposing of their booties, they would be effectually discouraged from pursuing illegal courses; and those who should be hardy enough to continue them would seldom escape the justice due to their iniquity.

Receivers of stolen goods are to be classed among the most infamous species of felons. They encourage robbers, and are therefore accessory to the crimes they commit; they are guilty even of a species of deliberate murder, since the practices they countenance seldom fail to bring the more immediate perpetrators thereof to violent and premature death.

Case of the unfortunate SAMUEL ORTON. who was executed for forging two Letters of Attaincy in the Name of Capt. BISHOP, by means of which he received One Thousand Pounds from the Bank of England.

SAMUEL ORTON was a native of London. While he was in a state of infancy his father died, leaving Mrs. Orton in possession of a handsome fortune. She was a protestant dissenter, and placed her son under the care of a dissenting minister, at whose academy he made some progress in several branches of learning.

The young man discovered a very strong inclination for trade; and he was therefore apprenticed to a reputable dealer in London, to whom he proved a faithful and industrious servant. Upon the expiration of his apprenticeship, he purchased the place of clerk to the court of Requests in the borough of Southwark, which produced an income of about three hundred pounds a year.

He soon afterwards embarked in the wine trade, which he successfully pursued some years; and, being generally considered as a man of large property, many persons, who supported their credit by the circulation of notes of hand and bills of exchange, applied for his indorsements, knowing that his name would give their paper currency; and he was so imprudent as to make himself liable to the payment of fourteen hundred pounds.

The persons with whom Mr. Orton had engaged in such imprudent connexions being declared bankrupts, he became answerable to the holders of the notes. Having debts of his own to the amount of



SAML. ORTON (Clerk of the Court of Requests in the Borough of Southwark) committing FORGERY on the Bank of England.

nine hundred pounds, and the notes for fourteen hundred to discharge within a fortnight, he formed the resolution of committing forgery.

A friendship had long subsisted between Mr. Orton and a captain, who upon leaving England had intrusted him with a letter of attorney, authorising him to receive his pay and dividend of Bank-stock.

He forged two letters of attorney, by means of which he received a thousand pounds at the Bank. It must be observed, that his intention was not ultimately to defraud the captain, but merely to support his credit till remittances from his correspondents should enable him to replace the money; and he flattered himself in the opinion, that if, through disappointments, he should be unable to restore the property before the captain's return, he would readily excuse his conduct.

Capt. Bishop, being at Portsmouth in August 1766, wrote to Mr. Orton, mentioning that his ship was coming round to Woolwich, and that he was desirous of an interview as soon as possible after his arrival. He wrote the captain word, that he would certainly meet him at Woolwich; and, having some business to negotiate at Yarmouth, he set out on horse-back for that place.

On his return to London he left his horse at an inn near Charing-cross, and went into St. James's park, where he accidentally met captain Bishop, whose ship had arrived at Woolwich on the preceding day. They supped together at the Bell Savage on Ludgate-hill; and the next day Mr. Orton dined with the captain on board his ship at Woolwich.

Before leaving Woolwich, Mr. Orton intended to inform the captain of his conduct with regard
to

to the money he had received at the Bank ; but he declined introducing the subject, upon learning that the captain meant to remain at Woolwich till his ship was cleared, which he expected would not be in less than a week.

Mr. Orton now went a second time to Yarmouth, and on his return in four days, he found a letter at his house from captain Bishop, signifying, that, having received his pay, he had more money by him than he had occasion for ; and therefore desired Mr. Orton to meet him at the Bell-Savage, and receive a sum in order to dispose of it in such a manner as he should judge would prove most advantageous. They met according to appointment ; and Mr. Orton was about to mention the forged letters of attorney, when the captain said he was under the necessity of immediately attending admiral Knowles : and they parted with every appearance of friendship, mutually promising to meet the following evening.

The next night he had not been in the house where he had appointed to meet captain Bishop more than half an hour, when he was arrested for two hundred pounds at the suit of the captain, and immediately conducted to a spunging-house. He was the next day examined in the presence of some of the directors of the Bank, and committed to Newgate in order for trial.

The violent agitation of spirits which this unfortunate man experienced, when he was charged with the commission of forgery, will not admit of description. Being brought to trial, his guilt was proved by indisputable evidence ; and he was sentenced to be executed.

While he remained in Newgate, his behaviour was perfectly consistent with his unhappy circumstances.

stances. He was conveyed to the place of execution in a mourning coach ; and, after he had employed some time in devout prayer, the sentence of the law was put in force, and his body was delivered to his friends.

Samuel Orton was executed at Tyburn, on the 14th of January, 1767.

We cannot but regret the fate of this unfortunate man, because it is certain that he was not influenced by wicked motives to the commission of the fact for which he forfeited his life ; but we must, however, acknowledge that he fell a just victim to the offended laws, which are not to be relaxed in favour of individuals, however amiable their private characters, lest their authority should be impaired.

Forgery is so dangerous in its tendency, and extensive in its consequences, that, even in cases where no actual injury is sustained, political reasons point out the necessity of inflicting a severity of punishment upon those who are guilty of so atrocious a crime.

Since a disgraceful death will be the almost inevitable consequence, let our readers be warned against having recourse to so desperate an expedient.



Account of JOHN WILLIAMSON, who was executed in *Moorfields*, for the *Murder* of his *Wife*, by inflicting upon her such extreme and complicated Cruelties as are shocking to Human Nature.

WILLIAMSON was the son of people in but indifferent circumstances, who put him apprentice to a shoemaker. When he came to be a journeyman, he pursued his business with industry; and in a short time he married an honest and sober woman, by whom he had three children. His wife dying, he continued some time a widower, maintaining himself and his children in a decent manner.

At length he contracted acquaintance with a young woman so deficient in point of intellect, that it may be said she bordered upon idiotism. Her relations had bequeathed her money sufficient for her maintenance; and this circumstance induced Williamson to make proposals of marriage, which she accepted. Being asked in church, the bans were forbid by the gentleman appointed guardian to the unhappy woman.

Williamson having procured a licence, the marriage was solemnized; and in consequence thereof he received the money that was in the hands of the guardian.

About three weeks after the marriage he cruelly beat his wife, threw water over her, and otherwise treated her with great severity; and this kind of brutality he frequently repeated.

At length he fastened the miserable creature's hands behind her with handcuffs, and, by means of
a rope



Vampodolin

Edg. sculp.

JN^o WILLIAMSON's cruel treatment of his WIFE,
whom he starved to Death, near Moorfields. —

a rope passed through a staple, drew them so tight above her head, that only the tips of her toes touched the ground. On one side of the closet wherein she was confined was now and then put a small piece of bread and butter, so that she could just touch it with her mouth; and she was daily allowed a small portion of water. She once remained a whole month without being released from this miserable condition; but, during that time, she occasionally received assistance from a female lodger in the house, and a little girl, Williamson's daughter by his former wife.

The girl having once released the poor sufferer, the inhuman villain beat her with great severity. When the father was abroad, the child frequently gave the unhappy woman a stool to stand upon, by which means her pain was in some degree abated. This circumstance being discovered by Williamson, he beat the girl in a most barbarous manner, and threatened that, if she again offended in the same way, he would punish her with still greater severity.

Williamson released his wife on the Sunday preceding the day on which she died, and at dinner-time cut her some meat, of which however she ate only a very small quantity. This partial indulgence he supposed would prove a favourable circumstance for him in case of being accused of murder. Her hands being greatly swelled, through the coldness of the weather, and the pain occasioned by the handcuffs, she begged to be permitted to go near the fire; and the daughter joining in her request, Williamson complied. When she had sat a few minutes, Williamson, observing her throwing the vermin that swarmed upon her cloaths into the fire, ordered her to "return to her kennel." Hereupon

she returned to the closet, the door of which was then locked till next day, when she was found to be in a delirious state, in which she continued till the time of her death, which happened about two o'clock on the Tuesday morning.

The coroner's jury being summoned to sit on the body, Mr. Barton, a surgeon, of Redcross-street, who had opened the body, declared that he was of opinion the deceased had perished through want of the common necessaries of life; and other evidence being adduced to criminate Williamson, he was committed to Newgate.

At the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, he was brought to trial before lord chief baron Parker; and the principal witnesses against him were his daughter, Mrs. Cole, and Mr. Barton, the surgeon who opened the body of the deceased. The prisoner's defence was exceedingly frivolous: he said, his wife had provoked him, by treading upon a kitten and killing it, and turning up the whites of her eyes.

It appeared that, from the sense of excruciating pain, the eyes of the deceased were frequently turned upwards, and her features violently distorted. He had the effrontery to declare to the court, that he had not abridged his wife of any of the necessaries of life; and, after sentence of death was pronounced, reflected upon his daughter as being the cause of his destruction. While the child was giving her evidence she wept bitterly, and shewed every sign of being greatly affected.

Being put into the cells, he sent for a clergyman, and acknowledged that he had treated his wife in the cruel manner represented upon his trial, adding, however, that he had no design of depriving her of life. From the time of his commitment till the

the time of his execution, he behaved in a decent and penitential manner.

He was conveyed to the place of execution in a cart, and attended by two clergymen and a methodist preacher. The gallows was placed on the rising ground opposite Chiswell-street in Moorfields. After he had sung a psalm, and prayed some time with an appearance of great devotion, he was turned off, amidst an amazing concourse of people. His body was conveyed to Surgeons'-hall, for dissection; and his children were placed in Cripple-gate workhouse.

John Williamson was executed in Moorfields, on the 19th of January, 1767.

Mrs. Cole, who lodged in the house, and several women in the neighbourhood, knew of the cruelties that Williamson inflicted upon his wife: but what could induce them to conceal such abominable transactions, we are unable to conceive. Had they lodged an information against the offender, two lives would, in all probability, have been preserved.

By all the ties of duty and humanity, Williamson was bound to protect and cherish his wife, whose infirmities of mind peculiarly rendered her an object of his compassion; but he was deliberate, and studied to be ingenious, in the exercise of barbarity.

How dreadful must have been the situation of this man in his dying moments! He was conscious that at the dread tribunal of the Almighty he was to receive an award apportioned to his offence, which was perhaps the most horrid crime of which human nature is capable, attended with circumstances of the highest possible aggravation!

A particular Account of the horrid Cruelties of ELIZABETH BROWNRIGG on her *Apprentices*; with an Account of her being apprehended, tried, convicted, and executed at *Tyburn* for *Murder*.

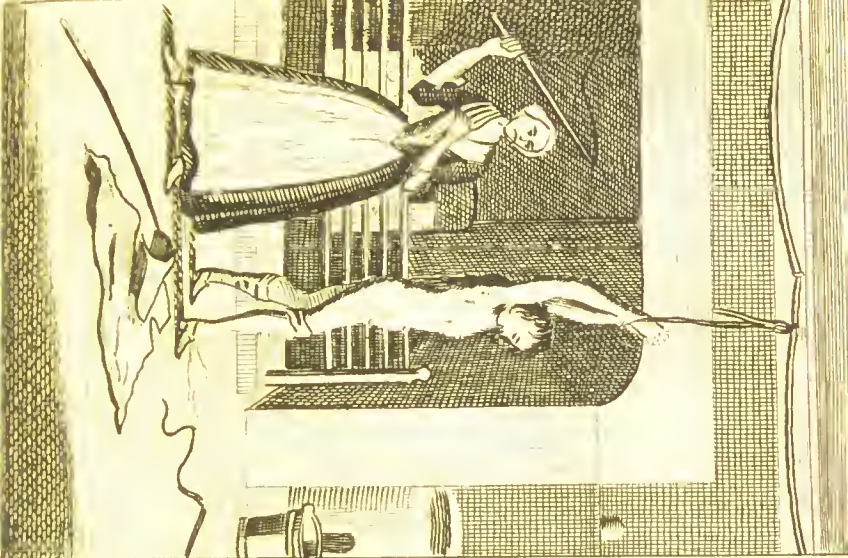
THIS wicked woman, after having been servant to a merchant in Goodman's-fields, married James Brownrigg, a painter, who went to settle at Greenwich, and after residing there six years came to London, and took a house in Fleur-de-lis-court, Fleet-street, where he carried on a considerable share of business, and had a little house at Islington for an occasional retreat.

Mrs. Brownrigg had been the mother of sixteen children, three of whom were living when she forfeited her life to the justice of the laws.

As she practised midwifery, she was appointed by the overseers of the poor of St. Dunstan's parish to take care of the poor women who were taken in labour in the workhouse; and it is but justice, to the memory of one who has but little else to be said in her favour, to declare that her character as a midwife remained unimpeached.

Mary Mitchell, a poor girl of the precinct of White Friars, was put apprentice to Mrs. Brownrigg in the year 1765; and about the same time Mary Jones, one of the children of the Foundling-hospital, was likewise placed with her in the same capacity; and she had other apprentices.

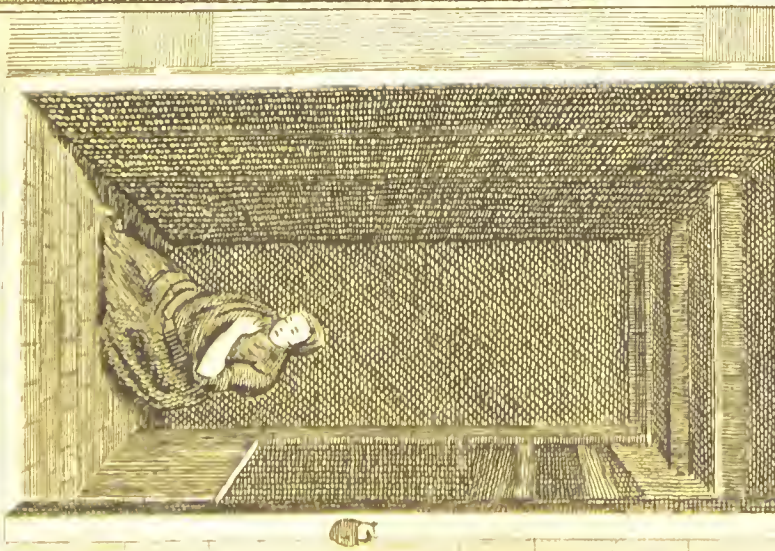
As Mr. Brownrigg received pregnant women to lie-in privately, these girls were taken with a view of saving the expence of women servants. At first the poor orphans were treated with some degree of civility; but this was soon changed for
the



*The Woman who the Poor Goods were
employed to sell in a shop (and so on).*



Mrs. Brownrigg in the Cell, Newgate.



*The Woman who the Poor Goods were
employed to sell in a shop (and so on).*

the most savage barbarity. Having laid Mary Jones across two chairs in the kitchen, she whipped her with such wanton cruelty, that she was occasionally obliged to desist from mere weariness. This treatment was frequently repeated; and Mrs. Brownrigg used to throw water on her when she had done whipping her, and sometimes she would dip her head into a pail of water.

The room appointed for the girl to sleep in adjoined to the passage leading to the street-door, and as she had received many wounds on her head, shoulders, and various parts of her body, she determined not to bear such treatment any longer, if she could effect her escape. Observing that the key was left in the street-door when the family went to bed, she opened the door cautiously one morning, and escaped into the street.

Thus freed from her horrid confinement, she repeatedly enquired her way to the Foundling-hospital till she found it, and was admitted after describing in what manner she had been treated, and shewing the bruises she had received.

The child having been examined by a surgeon, who found her wounds to be of a most alarming nature, the governors of the hospital ordered Mr. Plumtree, their solicitor, to write to James Brownrigg, threatening a prosecution, if he did not give a proper reason for the severities exercised towards the child.

No notice of this letter being taken by Brownrigg, and the governors of the hospital thinking it imprudent to indict at common law, the girl was discharged in consequence of an application to the chamberlain of London.

Mary Mitchell above-mentioned continued with her mistress for the space of a year, during which she

she was treated with such savage cruelty, that she also resolved to quit her service. Having got out of the house, she was met in the street by the younger son of Brownrigg, who forced her to return home, where her sufferings were greatly aggravated on account of her elopement.

In the interim, the overseers of the precinct of White Friars bound Mary Clifford to Brownrigg; nor was it long before she experienced similar cruelties to those inflicted on the other poor girls, and possibly still more severe. She was frequently tied up naked, and beaten with a hearth-broom, a horse-whip, or a cane, till she was absolutely speechless. This poor girl having a natural infirmity, the mistress would not permit her to lay in a bed, but placed her on a mat in a coal-hole that was remarkably cold: but, after some time, a sack and a quantity of straw formed her bed, instead of the mat.

During her confinement in that wretched situation, she had nothing to subsist on but bread and water; and her covering during the night consisted only of her own cloaths, so that she sometimes lay almost perished with cold.

On a particular occasion, when she was almost starving through hunger, she broke open a cupboard in search of food, but found it empty; and on another occasion she broke down some boards, in order to procure a draught of water. Though she was thus pressed for the humblest necessities of life, Mrs. Brownrigg determined to punish her with rigour, for the means she had taken to supply herself with them.

On this she caused the girl to strip to the skin, and during the course of a whole day, while she remained naked, she repeatedly beat her with the
but-

but-end of a whip. In the course of this most inhuman treatment, a jack-chain was fixed round her neck, the end of which was fastened to the yard door, and then it was pulled as tight as possible; without strangling her. A day being passed in the practice of these savage barbarities, the girl was remanded to the coal-hole at night, her hands being tied behind her, and the chain still remaining about her neck.

The husband being obliged to find his wife's apprentices * in wearing-apparel, they were frequently stripped naked, and kept so for whole days, if their garments happened to be torn.

The elder son of Brownrigg had frequently the superintendence of the above-mentioned wretched girl; but this was sometimes committed to the apprentice, who declared that she was totally naked one night when he went to tie her up.

The two poor girls were frequently so beaten, that their heads and shoulders appeared as one general fore; and when a plaister was applied to their wounds, the skin used to peel away.

Sometimes Mrs. Brownrigg, when resolved on uncommon severity, used to tie their hands with a cord, and draw them up to a water-pipe which ran across the ceiling in the kitchen; but that giving way, she desired her husband to fix a hook in the beam, through which a cord was drawn, and their
arms

* It does not appear that these unhappy girls were bound apprentice to the husband; and we have considered them as apprentices to the wife, because they were her more immediate servants.

arms being extended, she used to horsewhip them till she was weary, and till the blood followed every stroke.

The elder son of Brownrigg having one day directed Mary Clifford to put up a half-tester bedstead, the poor girl was unable to do it; on which he beat her till she could no longer support his severity: and at another time, when the mother had been whipping her in the kitchen till she was absolutely tired, the son renewed the savage treatment.

Mrs. Brownrigg would sometimes seize the poor girl by the cheeks, and forcing the skin down violently with her fingers, would cause the blood to gush from her eyes.

Mary Clifford, unable to bear these repeated severities, complained of her hard treatment to a French lady who lodged in the house; and she having represented the impropriety of such behaviour to Mrs. Brownrigg, the inhuman monster flew at the girl, and cut her tongue in two places with a pair of scissars.

On the morning of the 13th of July, Mrs. Brownrigg went into the kitchen, and, after obliging Mary Clifford to strip to the skin, drew her up to the staple, and, though her body was almost one general sore, from former bruises, yet this barbarian mistress renewed her cruelties with the accustomed severity.

After whipping her till the blood streamed down her body, she let her down, and made her wash herself in a tub of cold water; Mary Mitchell, the other poor girl, being present during this transaction. While Clifford was washing herself, Mrs. Brownrigg stuck her on the shoulders, already sore with former bruises, with the but-end of a whip; and

and she treated the poor child in the manner above mentioned five times in the same day, as if she was determined to set no bounds to her inhumanity.

The poor girl's wounds now began to shew evident signs of mortification; and it is probable that she might have been privately buried, and the murderers escaped detection, but for the following circumstance. Mary Clifford's mother-in-law, who had resided some time in the country, came to town, and enquired after the child; and being informed that she was placed at Brownrigg's, she went thither, but was refused admittance by Mr. Brownrigg, who even threatened to carry her before the lord-mayor if she came there to make farther disturbances.

Hereupon the mother-in-law was going away, when Mrs. Deacon, wife of Mr. Deacon, baker at the adjoining house, called her in, and informed her that she and her family had often heard moanings and groans issue from Brownrigg's house, and that she suspected the apprentices were treated with unwarrantable severity.

Mrs. Deacon likewise promised to exert herself to come at the truth of the affair.

At this juncture Mr. Brownrigg, going to Hampstead on business, bought a hog, which he sent home. This hog was put into a covered yard, to which there was a sky-light, which it was thought necessary to remove, in order to give air to the animal.

As soon as it was known that the sky-light was removed, Mr. Deacon ordered his servants to watch, in order, if possible, to discover the girls. Deacon's servant-maid, looking from a window, saw one of the girls stooping down; on which she called her mistress, and she desired the attendance of some of the neighbours, who having been wit-

nesses of the shocking scene, some men got upon the leads, and dropped bits of dirt, to induce the girl to speak to them; but she seemed wholly incapable*.

Hereupon Mrs. Deacon sent to the girl's mother-in-law, who going to the overseers who had placed out the child, they called on Mr. Grundy, one of the overseers of St. Dunstan's; and all of them going together, they demanded a sight of Mary Clifford: but Brownrigg, who had nick-named her Nan, told them that he knew no such person, but if they wanted to see Mary, (meaning Mary Mitchell) they might; and accordingly produced her.

Mr. Deacon's servant now declared, that Mary Mitchell was not the girl who had been seen in the shocking situation above-mentioned: on which Mr. Grundy sent for a constable, to search the house, which was done; but no discovery was then made.

Mr. Brownrigg threatened highly; but Mr. Grundy, with the spirit that became the officer of a parish, took Mary Mitchell with him to the workhouse, where, on the taking off her leathern boddice, it stuck so fast to her wounds, that she shrieked with the pain: but, on being treated with great humanity, and told that she should not be sent back to Brownrigg's, she gave an account of the horrid treatment that she and Mary Clifford had sustained; and confessed that she had met the latter on the stairs just before they came to the house.

On

* It will seem strange, that when suspicions of a murderous intention arose, the neighbours could hesitate a moment in procuring proper authority to search the house.

On this Mr. Grundy, and some others, returned to the house, to make a stricter search : on which Brownrigg sent for a lawyer, in order to intimidate them, and even threatened a prosecution, unless they immediately quitted the house.

Unterrified by these threats, Mr. Grundy sent for a coach to carry Brownrigg to the compters ; on which the latter promised to produce the girl in half an hour, if the coach was discharged. This being consented to, the girl was produced from a cupboard, under a beaufet in the dining-room, after a pair of shoes, which young Brownrigg had in his hand during the proposal, had been put upon her.

It is not in language to describe the miserable appearance this poor girl made : almost her whole body was ulcerated. Being taken to the work-house, an apothecary was sent for, who pronounced her to be in danger.

Brownrigg was conveyed to Wood-street compters ; but his wife and son made their escape, taking with them a gold watch and some money.

Mr. Brownrigg was now carried before Mr. alderman Crosby, who fully committed him, and ordered the girls to be taken to St. Bartholomew's hospital, where Mary Clifford died within a few days ; and the coroner's inquest being summoned, found a verdict of Wilful Murder against James and Elizabeth Brownrigg, and John their son.

In the mean time, Mrs. Brownrigg and her son shifted from place to place in London, bought cloaths in Rag-fair to disguise themselves, and then went to Wandsworth, where they took lodgings in the house of Mr. Dunbar, who kept a chandler's shop, where they remained till they were apprehended, carefully screening themselves from public-view.

Mr. Dunbar happening to read a newspaper * on the 15th of August, saw an advertisement which so clearly described his lodgers, that he had no doubt but they were the murderers. On this he went to London the next day, which was Sunday, and going to church, sent for Mr. Owen, the churchwarden, to attend him in the vestry, and gave him such a description of the parties, that Mr. Owen desired Mr. Deacon, and Mr. Wingrave a constable, to go to Wandsworth, and make the necessary enquiry.

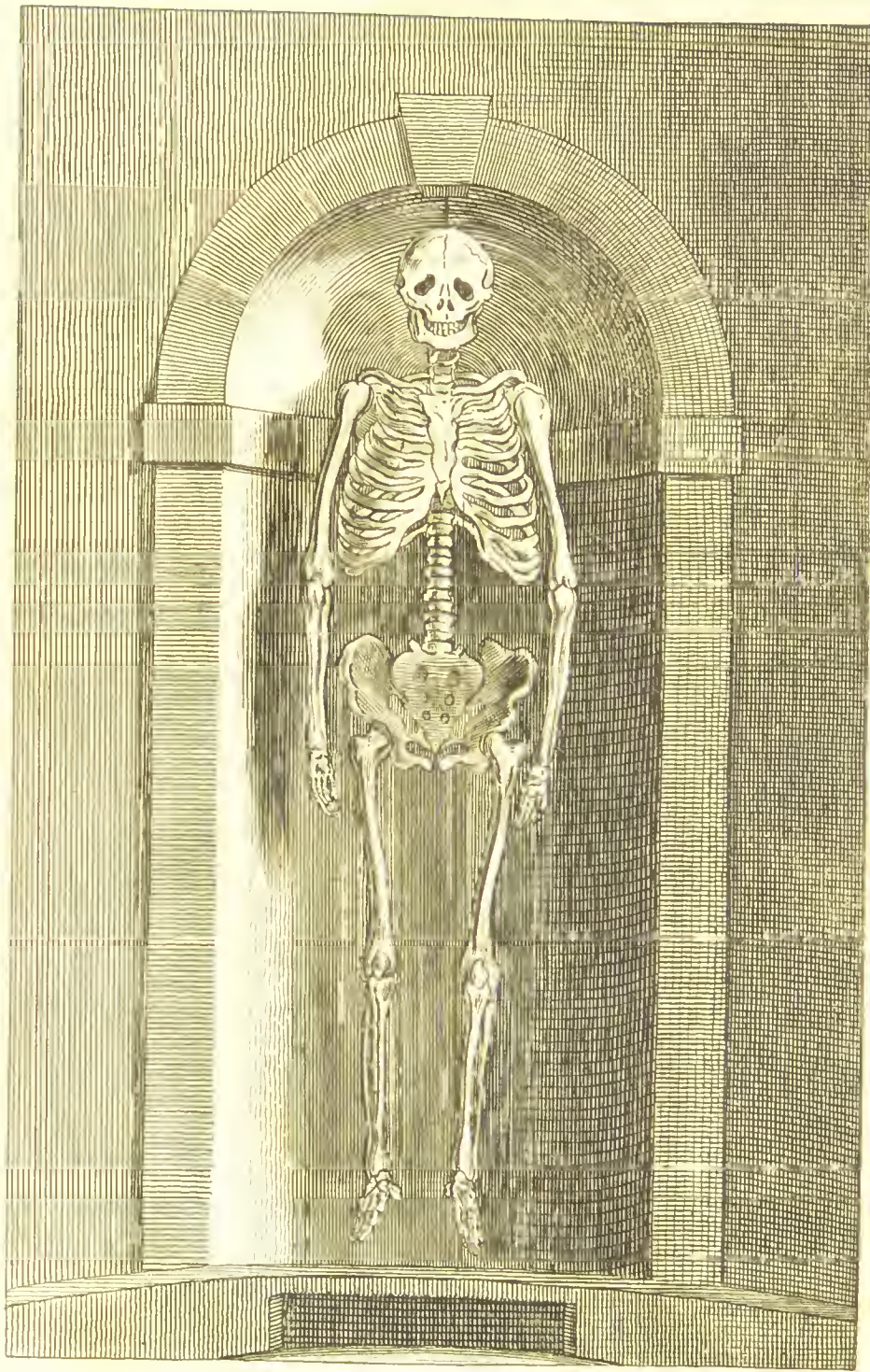
On their arrival at Dunbar's house, they found the wretched mother and son in a room by themselves. They gave evident signs of confusion at the first interview; but a coach being procured, they were conveyed to London, without any person in Wandsworth having knowledge of the affair, except Mr. and Mrs. Dunbar.

At the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey the father, mother, and son, were indicted; when Elizabeth Brownrigg, after a trial of eleven hours, was found guilty of murder, and ordered for execution; but the man and his son, being acquitted of the higher charge, were detained to take their trials for a misdemeanour, of which they were convicted, and imprisoned for six months.

After sentence of death was passed on Mrs. Brownrigg, she was attended by a clergyman, to whom she confessed the enormity of her crime, and acknowledged the justice of the sentence by which she had been condemned.

The

* This is one, of ten thousand instances, that proves the importance of the liberty of the press; and it is evident that those who seek to abridge it, can be no true friends to the liberties of their country.



The SKELETON of ELIZth BROWNRIGG,
in Surgeon's Hall

The parting between her and her husband and son, on the morning of her execution, was affecting beyond description. The son falling on his knees, she bent herself to him and embraced him. The husband was kneeling on the other side: she also kneeled down, and having besought the Almighty to have mercy on her soul, said, "Dear James, I beg that God, for Christ's sake, will be reconciled, and that he will not leave me, nor forsake me, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment."

On her way to the place of execution, the people expressed their abhorrence of her crime in terms which, though not proper for the occasion, testified their astonishment that such a wretch could have existed; they even prayed for her damnation, instead of her salvation: they doubted not but that "the devil would fetch her," and hoped that "she would go to hell." Such were the sentiments of the mob.

At the place of execution this miserable woman joined in prayers with the ordinary of Newgate, whom she desired to declare to the multitude, that she confessed her guilt, and acknowledged the justice of her sentence.

After execution her body was put into a hackney coach, conveyed to Surgeons'-hall, dissected and anatomized; and her skeleton may be yet seen in a niche in the hall, as exhibited in a print in this work.

Elizabeth Brownrigg was hanged at Tyburn, on the 14th of September, 1767.

What is it possible to say on this subject that will not have occurred to every reader of feeling and humanity? This more than common murder—this murder by inches, has something so shocking

ing

ing in its nature —something so infernal in its progress, that there is no language in which to express our abhorrence of it.

That Mrs. Brownrigg, a midwife by profession, and herself the mother of many children, should wantonly murder the children of other women, is truly astonishing, and can only be accounted for by that depravity of human nature, which philosophers have always disputed, but which true christians will be ready to allow.

Let her crimes be buried, though her skeleton be exposed; and may no one hereafter be found hardy enough to copy those crimes!

Women who have the care of children from parish workhouses, or hospitals, should consider themselves at once as mistresses and as mothers; nor ever permit the strictness of the former character to preponderate over the humanity of the latter.



A Narrative of the Case of WILLIAM GUEST, who was hanged for *High-Treason*, in diminishing the current Coin of this Realm.

THIS malefactor was the son of a grocer at Worcester, and, having received a liberal education, was brought up to his father's business. After the expiration of the term of his apprenticeship he came to London, married, and took a shop in Holborn, where he carried on business for some years with a moderate share of success.

At length he procured the place of a clerk in the Bank; soon after which he seems to have determined on the fatal expedient for which his life
after-

afterwards paid the forfeit ; though he continued his practices two years before he was discovered.

He now took a house in Broad-street buildings, in a room in the upper part of which he used to work. Having procured a curious machine for the milling of guineas, not unlike a machine made use of by mathematical-instrument-makers, he used to take guineas from his drawer at the Bank, file them, and then return them to the Bank, and take out guineas of full weight in their stead.

Of the filings he made ingots, which he sold to an assayer, who, on his trial, deposed, that the filings were of the same standard as our guineas.

Mr. Leach, one of the tellers of the Bank, had frequently observed that Mr. Guest took guineas from the bags in the drawer, and put in others from his pocket ; which occasioning suspicion, Leach determined to watch the event, and detect the offender.

Having observed Guest pay some money to a gentleman named Still, and remarking that Guest mixed some guineas in his pocket with those taken from the drawer, Leach followed Mr. Still out of the bank, and asked him to go into the pay-office, that he might look at the money he had received. Mr. Still readily complied, and Leach found three, out of thirty guineas, which were light, and had the appearance of having been newly filed.

These guineas Mr. Leach delivered to the principal cashier, and, on their being weighed, it was found that they were deficient from a shilling to fourteen pence each. On this it was determined to search Guest's bags ; which being done after bank-hours, in the presence of the cashier, forty guineas appearing to have been newly filed were found in them.

On this a warrant was obtained from the lord-mayor to search Guest's house, and to apprehend the offender. At first he made some opposition to the searching of his house; but soon found himself obliged to submit. The machine with which he milled the guineas, after having filed off the first milling; was found, and likewise a number of files, and some gold dust in a glass.

Being carried before the lord-mayor, he was committed to Newgate, and brought to trial at the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey. On the approach of his trial, he caused subpoenas to be sent to several mathematical-instrument-makers, one of whom declared, on oath, that the instrument produced in court was similar to that used in their business, only that it was on a better construction; and this instrument being examined by some workmen at the Mint, they deposed, that it was properly adapted to the filing of guineas.

It likewise appeared on the trial, that Mr. Leach had seen, in the prisoner's possession, a bar of gold half an inch in thickness, two inches in width, and six inches long. Mr. Troughton, a jeweller; deposed, he had sold two bars of gold for the prisoner; one of which weighed forty-six, and the other forty-eight ounces; but that the bars sent from foreign parts were more regularly cast than these appeared to be.

The circumstances above-mentioned were deemed to adduce such evidence of guilt; that the jury did not hesitate to convict Mr. Guest; the consequence of which was, that sentence of death was passed on him.

Great intercession was made to save this unhappy man, and some persons of high rank were prevailed on to sign a petition in his favour; but it was de-
termined



Doyle delin

J. Lodge sculp

W^m GUEST (condemned for High Treason)
(drawn on a SLEDGE to Tyburn?)

terminated in council that the law should take its course respecting a man whose crime was supposed to operate to the prejudice of persons of all ranks and degrees.

After conviction, this malefactor made the most serious preparations for the awful change that awaited him, not flattering himself with the vain hopes of that pardon which could not in reason be expected. His attendance on the offices of devotion was regular, and appeared to be sincere; and he sustained his calamities with the spirit of a man and a christian.

Consistent with the plan respecting persons convicted of high-treason, he was conveyed to the place of execution in a sledge. His dress consisted of a suit of mourning, and a club-wig; and his behaviour was so truly penitent and contrite, as to claim the general compassion of the surrounding multitude. At the place of execution he appeared to exhibit every mark of penitence and resignation. He prayed devoutly; and when he was turned off, and his body had hung the customary time, it was delivered to his friends to be buried.

William Guest suffered at Tyburn on the 14th of October, 1767.

Such was the end of a man born to better hopes, and fairer expectations; one who might have lived reputably on the profits of his place in the Bank, and by his other connexions: but the strength of avarice seems to have gotten the better of his more virtuous passions, and he fell a sacrifice to the wish to get rich too suddenly. He could not resist temptation, and this proved his destruction.

We fear this is but too common a case; and hence we may learn that to be contented with our several allotments in life is one of our first duties.

We can no way more gratefully acknowledge our sense of the goodness of Providence, than by a thankful acceptance of its bounties, and a chearful acquiescence in its dispensations.

Upon the whole, the case of the unfortunate Guest may serve to teach us, that honesty is the best policy, and that no real, no solid lasting gain can result from covetousness.



Account of the singular Case of JOHN POWER, otherwise WINN, who was hanged at *Execution Dock*, for the complicated Crimes of *Piracy and Murder*.

THIS malefactor was a native of the West of England, and very early engaged in a sea-faring life, serving on board a ship which sailed to the coast of Guiney on the slave-trade*.

Captain Fox had the command of the vessel, and, while he was on shore on the African coast, Power, and several other seamen, determined to seize the ship, and to take her to sea on their own account.

This resolution being formed, they swore fidelity to each other; and, giving the name of Bravo to the ship, (which had been called the Polly) they sailed for the West Indies, the command being given to Power, who now assumed the title of captain.

* This trade, of all others, is the most obnoxious to the feelings of humanity, the most contrary to the doctrines of christianity; and it is astonishing that any man can barter away the lives and liberties of his fellow-creatures!

The mate of the ship exerted his utmost influence to prevail on Power to let the real captain come on board before he sailed, and to return to his own duty; but all the return that the mate experienced for this good advice was the ball of a pistol lodged in his shoulder: Power likewise discharged a ball through the cheek of a sailor; and wounded a second, who refused to submit to his imperious commands.

Thus by violence becoming master of the vessel, he proceeded on his voyage with a lading of Negro slaves; but among the other parties on board was a free Negro, who had remained as a hostage for two of his countrymen; and this man was employed in splitting wood for firing.

This free Negro frequently conversing with the slaves, the pirates conceived that they were concerting plans to regain their liberty;—for guilt is ever suspicious.

One Robert Fitzgerald, an Irishman, was the first who observed the free Negro talking to the slaves; and hinting his suspicions to Power, and telling him to be on his guard, the latter, who was a fellow of the most unfeeling disposition, caused the poor man to be tied to the side of the ship, where he whipped him some minutes with a cat-o'-nine-tails, with such severity, that his body streamed with blood, and his bones in some places were visible.

After this severe chastisement for no real offence, Power took a cutlass from the hands of one of the sailors; but not thinking it sharp enough to answer his horrid purpose, he directed that another should be brought him, with which he cut the poor Negro in several places. Not contented with exercising this unprovoked severity, he directed Fitzgerald

to cut him again, and the barbarous villain even exceeded his commission. Another of the sailors, named Potts, likewise cut him in two or three places; and at length Fitzgerald compleated the murder, by cutting off his head, and throwing that, with the body, into the sea; though he had no order from Power for carrying the affair to such extremity.

The horrid murder being thus committed, they continued their voyage for the West Indies, where they offered the Negro slaves to sale; but a suspicion arising of some illicit practices, they thought it prudent to depart; and steering their course for North America, they came to an anchor in the harbour of New York, where most of them thought it prudent to consult their safety in flight; but the surgeon of the ship, who had been obliged to dissemble his inclinations to save his life, gave information against the murderers, some of whom were taken into custody.

Fitzgerald had made his escape; but Power, and a seaman named Tomlin, were sent to England, where they were brought to trial, when the latter was acquitted from a variety of circumstances that arose in exculpation of his crime; but Power, being convicted on the fullest evidence, was sentenced to death, for the murder of the Negro.

After conviction his behaviour was such as might have been expected from so hardened a wretch, one who seemed to defy the laws of God and man, to be a wilful, a deliberate murderer.

This malefactor was hanged at Execution-dock on the 10th of March, 1768.

After the various and repeated remarks we have made on the crimes of murder and piracy, nothing remains to be said on the present occasion, but to repro-

reprobate, in the severest manner, the practice of engaging in the slave trade. If a man possessed those generous feelings by which our nature is said to be distinguished, it is impossible he could engage in this infernal traffic : or, if he did engage in it, it is impossible but that his feelings must be called forth, and he would soon see that his life was little less than continued murder.

We are convinced that it may be, because it has been argued, that the petty princes on the coast of Africa make a practice of selling as slaves such of their countrymen as they have obtained possession of by right of conquest : but shall this be an argument of any weight in a humane, in a christian breast? Forbid it honour! Forbid it that genuine philanthropy which claims the first possession of our hearts, and gives us a distinction from the beasts that perish!

It is not reasonable to suppose that God has made any distinction between his creatures ; why then should that distinction be made by man? vain presumptuous man ! too fond of arrogating to himself something more than the attribute of the Deity !



Account of the Case of JAMES GIBSON, who was hanged at *Tyburn* for *Forgery*, after he had been a long time under Sentence of Death.

THIS malefactor, having received a liberal education, was articled to an attorney of eminence, with whom he served his time with credit to himself, and satisfaction to his employer ;
and,

and, when his clerkship was ended, engaged in business on his own account with a fair character.

It was acknowledged that Gibson was an excellent attorney, yet for a considerable time his practice was confined: he had not the happiness of making good connexions: his fortune threw him among the lower ranks of people; and it was some years before he obtained any better employment than that of prosecuting for small debts, and commencing suits for assault and battery.

Gibson was remarkably fond of alehouse declamation, and particularly of expatiating on the importance of the law. This procured him some consideration among men of less sense than himself; and at length his business increased in a very considerable degree, and he was looked on as of some consequence in his profession.

In the early part of life Mr. Gibson had married a young lady, with whom he received a genteel fortune; but he was very unhappy in this connexion, though five children, all of whom were living at the time of his death, were the fruits of this marriage. His unhappiness is said to have arisen from his own inconsideration, in leaving his wife in circumstances of penury, while he was in the enjoyment of the decent accommodations of life.

The immediate cause of Gibson's leaving his wife is said to have been an illicit connexion which he had made with the kept mistress of a Scotch nobleman, who had fallen a sacrifice to his own debaucheries, but had left his woman one hundred pounds a year, besides some other legacies of value. With this woman Gibson became acquainted, and left his wife and children to struggle with the difficulties of life in the best manner in their power.

Gibson's

Gibson's skill as a lawyer being indisputable, Mr. Francis, deputy-solicitor to the Treasury, took him into partnership; and for a considerable time he behaved with a degree of fidelity that did ample justice to the choice that had been made.

Mr. Francis's business was of a very extensive nature, and was principally transacted by Gibson, who gave proof of the most consummate abilities for the practice of the law. Many persons, who remember Gibson, say, that a more compleat lawyer never lived.

Not simply the business of the treasury, but a variety of other concerns, were committed to the care of Mr. Francis, and, as he left them to the management of Gibson, the latter, by abusing his trust, gave rise to the occasion which makes the subject of this narrative.

Mr. Francis was employed in a cause respecting an estate in chancery; on which an injunction was issued, and a person was appointed to receive the rents of the estate till the lord chancellor should make his final decree. In the interim Gibson, having reduced himself by a profuse mode of living, forged the hand writing of the accomptant-general of the court of chancery, in consequence of which he received above nine hundred pounds.

Discovery of this transaction being made in a short time, Gibson was taken into custody, and lodged in Newgate, in September 1766. Being brought to trial for the forgery at the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, the jury brought in a special verdict, subject to the determination of the twelve judges.

From this time Gibson continued in Newgate till January 1768, and it was at that time the prevailing public opinion that no farther notice would be taken of his affair. How far there was any reason

reason for this presumption, it is impossible to say; but whatever might be in it, Gibson's own impatience prevented its operation; for he repeatedly made application that his case might be determined by the judges; and at length, in Hillary term, 1768, the reverend Bench made a final decision on his case, importing that it came within the meaning of the law; the consequence of which was, that he received sentence of death, and was removed into the cells of Newgate.

After sentence of death was passed on him, his behaviour was every way becoming his melancholy situation. He seemed truly sensible of the crimes of which he had been guilty; and was particularly hurt by his want of feeling for his wife, whom he had deserted in the hour of necessity.

His preparation for the solemn and awful change that awaited him, appeared to be rational, serious, and devout. He applied for pardon to that throne of mercy whence alone he had a right to expect it. His seriousness seemed to increase as the solemn moment approached, and it was evident that he was determined to meet his fate as became a man and a christian.

On the day of his execution he was indulged with a mourning coach to the fatal tree, and was attended by an immense crowd of spectators. His behaviour was so pious, so resigned, and in all respects so admirably adapted to his unhappy situation, that the tears of the commiserating multitude accompanied his last ejaculation.

His devotions being ended, his body hung the customary time, and was then given to his friends to be buried.

This malefactor suffered at Tyburn on the 23d of March, 1768.

A few

A few reflections very naturally occur on this case. Mr. Gibson was confessedly a man of abilities, but it is evident that he prostituted them to purposes unworthy of himself, and incompatible with his better prospects. He might have lived an honour to himself, a credit to his profession, and have provided for his family in a respectable manner: but he rashly deviated from the line of honour, the consequence of which was, that he died the death of infamy.

While Gibson was in Newgate, he obtained a very genteel support by drawing petitions, and doing other business for the unfortunate, for which he was very well qualified; but his own impatience, as we have already hinted, expedited his fate. This seems to prove the truth of an old observation, that the love of liberty is inherent in the human breast. If this man had not been anxious to get out of prison, he might have possibly remained in it till he had proper time to repent of his crimes: nor is the supposition absurd, that a pardon might have followed the general prepossession that seemed to have prevailed in his favour:—but impatience ruined all his fairer prospects; he was determined to seek his own fate, and it met him in a way that he certainly did not expect.

From the example of this man, we should be taught, that the deliberate commission of crimes will generally be followed by exemplary punishment; and that a plain procedure in the path of virtue will furnish the only solid ground of happiness in this world, and the only rational expectation of it in a future!

Account of the singular Case of FREDERICK LORD BALTIMORE, who was tried for committing a *Rape* on SARAH WOODCOCK; and of the Cases of ELIZABETH GRIFFENBURG, and ANNE HARVEY, who were tried as Accessaries before the Fact; and all the Parties acquitted.

THOUGH conviction did not follow the trials of these presumed offenders, it is our duty to state the affair as it was transmitted to the public at the time.

Frederick lord Baltimore was the lineal descendant of Mr. Calvert, who was promoted to the degree of a peer of Ireland by king James the First, from whom he received the grant of an immense tract of land in America, which has since borne the name of Maryland.

Lord Baltimore's father had a country-seat at Epsom, where the object of our present notice was born, and sent for education to Eton-school, where he became a great proficient in classical knowledge; and was said to have a singular taste and capacity for the learning and manners of the ancients; and his father dying before he was of age, left him in possession of a most ample fortune.

His lordship married the daughter of the duke of Bridgewater, but was exceedingly unhappy in the nuptial connexion, owing to his own unbounded attachment to women. In fact, his passion for the sex was so illiberal and so gross, that his house had the appearance of a Turkish seraglio, rather than that of an Englishman of fortune; nor was it reputable for any woman of character to have entered within his walls.

Lord

Lord Baltimore, during his residence abroad, sailed from Naples to Constantinople, where he saw and admired the customs of the Turks; and, on his return to England, in 1766, he caused a part of his house to be taken down, and rebuilt in the form of a Turkish haram. He kept a number of women, who had rules given them by which to regulate their conduct; and he had agents, to procure him fresh faces, in different parts of the town.

Elizabeth Griffenburg, wife of Dr. Griffenburg, a native of Germany, and Anne Harvey, a woman of low education, were two of the parties employed by lord Baltimore in his irregular designs on the sex.

In November, 1767, Mrs. Harvey told his lordship that a young lady named Woodcock, who was very handsome, kept a millener's shop on Tower-hill. Prompted by curiosity, and a still more ignoble motive, lord Baltimore went once or twice to the shop, and purchased some trifling articles, by way of making an acquaintance. He then asked her if she would attend him to the play; but this she declined, having never been at a play in her life; and as she had been bred up among that rigid sect of dissenters called Independents, she had been taught to consider theatrical diversions as incompatible with the duties of christianity.

Some time afterwards lord Baltimore went hastily into Miss Woodcock's shop, saying that he had been splashed by mud from a hackney-coach. This was noticed by the young lady, who expressed her surprize that he could be so near the coach as to see, but not avoid it. He answered, "I was thinking of you, Miss;" but she paid no regard to this compliment, as she considered him as a neighbour, and a married man.

At length lord Baltimore and his agents had compleated the outlines of the ungenerous plan which they had determined if possible to carry into execution. Mrs. Harvey, going to Miss Woodcock's shop on the 14th of December, bespoke a pair of laced ruffles, which she desired might be made up against the next day, for the use of a lady, who might be a good customer, if she was not disappointed, as she was fond of encouraging persons who were young in trade.

On the following day Mrs. Harvey called and paid for the ruffles, and, having given orders for some other articles, desired that they might be brought to her house in the Curtain-road near Holloway-mount, Shoreditch, on the succeeding day.

At the time appointed Miss Woodcock went to the house, where Mrs. Harvey received her politely, and desired her to drink tea; but as the days were short, and as she had no friend to attend her, she expressed her wish to decline the invitation.— During their conversation one Isaac Isaacs, a Jew, came into the house, and having paid his respects to Mrs. Harvey, said he was going to the play. Hereupon Mrs. Harvey said, “ I was going to attend a lady with some millinery goods; ” and then to Isaacs, “ This is the lady I was speaking to you of : ” then again to Miss Woodcock, “ I would be glad you would go with me; the lady wants a great many things, and will be a very good customer to you.”

Isaacs now observed, that, as it was necessary for him to have a coach, he could set them both down at the lady's house. This was objected to by Miss Woodcock, on account of her dress; but this objection was over-ruled by Mrs. Harvey, who said that circumstance could not have any weight with the lady whom they were about to attend.

At this time Lord Baltimore's coach was waiting in the neighbourhood; and Isaacs, going out under the pretence of calling a coach, gave directions for drawing it to the door. This being done, the parties got into it; but Miss Woodcock did not observe whether it was a hackney coach or not.

The coachman drove at a great rate; the glasses were drawn up, and at length they arrived in the court-yard of a house, apparently that of a person of fashion. Mrs. Harvey took Miss Woodcock up stairs through a suit of rooms elegantly furnished, in one of which she saw an elderly man sitting, whom she afterwards knew to be Dr. Griffenburg, who politely desired her to repose herself, while he informed the lady of the house of her arrival.

Dr. Griffenburg had not long been absent when Lord Baltimore entered, and Miss Woodcock was much alarmed when she discovered that he was the very person who had repeatedly been at her shop: but he desired her to be appeased, saying that he was steward to the lady on whom she was come to attend. Miss Woodcock desired that she might immediately see the lady: on which lord Baltimore said he would fetch her; and soon afterwards bringing in Mrs. Griffenburg, said that she was the lady who had ordered the millinery goods.

Orders were now given for tea; and, when the equipage was taken from the table, lord Baltimore brought from another room some purses, a ring, some smelling bottles, and other articles, which he said he had purchased for Miss Woodcock. She seemed to despise the trifles, which she intimated might have pleased her well enough when a child.

As the evening advanced, she seemed importunate to depart, saying that her friends would be-

come

come uneasy at her long absence; but at this time she had no idea of being forcibly detained.

To divert her from the thought of departing, lord Baltimore took her to view several apartments in the house; on their coming into one of which where there was a harpsichord, he proposed to play a tune on that instrument to the young lady; and when he had so done, and she became still more anxious to depart, he insisted that she should stay to supper, and gave a private intimation to Mrs. Griffenburg to make the necessary preparations.

Mrs. Griffenburg being retired, lord Baltimore took Miss Woodcock behind the window-curtain, and behaved to her in a manner very inconsistent with the rules of decency. On her making violent opposition to this insult, Dr. Griffenburg and Mrs. Harvey advanced, as if to assist his lordship; but she contested the matter with them all, and forcing her way towards the door, declared that she would go home immediately; yet still it does not appear that she had any suspicion of sustaining the violence that was afterwards offered her.

After this, lord Baltimore insisted on her sitting with him at supper; but her mind was too much discomposed to admit of her thinking of taking any refreshment. He offered her a glass of syllabub; but she beat it out of his hand, and ran towards the door, with an intention to have departed; but he told her it was too late, that no coach was then to be procured; and at length said positively, that she should not go home.

Dr. Griffenburg, with his wife, and Mrs. Harvey, now endeavoured to prevail on the young lady to go to bed; but she declared she would never sleep in that house. On this they conducted her to a
room,

room, in which they went to bed ; but she continued walking about till the morning, and lamenting her unhappy situation.

Looking out of the window about eight o'clock, she observed a young woman passing, to whom she threw out her handkerchief, which was then heavy with tears. As the party did not see her, she called out " young woman!" on which the other made a motion as if she would fling the handkerchief within the rails.

As Miss Woodcock called to the woman with an intention of sending her to her father, the two women now jumped out of bed, and forced her from the window, upbraiding her with what they called a rejection of her good fortune, and wishing themselves in so happy a situation.

Her reply was, that all the fortune the man possessed should not prevail on her to think of living with him on dishonourable terms; and she again demanded that liberty to which she had so just a claim.

The women now quitting the room, Lord Baltimore and Dr. Griffenburg came in soon afterwards; when the former said that he was astonished at her outrageous behaviour, as he had promised that she should go home at twelve o'clock. She replied, that she would go home directly, as her sister, and particularly her father, would be inexpressibly anxious on occasion of her absence.

Lord Baltimore now conducted her down stairs, and ordered breakfast; but she refused to eat, and wept incessantly till twelve o'clock, when she once more demanded her liberty. His lordship now said, that he loved her to excess; that he could not part with her; that he did not intend any injury to her, and that he would write to her father:

father; and on this he wrote a letter, of which the following is a copy, and in it sent a bank-note of two hundred pounds.

“ Your daughter Sally sends you the inclosed,
 “ and desires you will not be uneasy on her account, because every thing will turn out well,
 “ with a little patience and prudence. She is
 “ at a friend’s house, safe and well, in all honesty
 “ and honour; nothing else is meant, you may
 “ depend on it; and, Sir, as your presence and
 “ consent is necessary, we beg of you to come,
 “ in a private manner, to Mr. Richard Smith’s,
 “ in Broad-street-buildings.”

Lord Baltimore shewed this letter to Miss Woodcock; but so greatly was her mind disturbed, that she knew little of its contents; and so exceedingly was she terrified, that she wrote the following words at the bottom, by his direction: “ Dear
 “ father, this is true, and should be glad you
 “ would come this afternoon: — from your
 “ dutiful daughter.”

After writing the above postscript, she appears to have been convinced of the impropriety of it, and turning to his lordship, she said, “ Can you
 “ look me in the face, and say that your name is
 “ Richard Smith, or that these are Broad-street-buildings?” Struck with guilt, he acknowledged his name was not Richard Smith, but said that gentleman lived within a few doors; and that the place was not the Broad-street-buildings in the city, but another of the same name at the west end of the town.

She now wept incessantly, at the thought of her unhappy situation, repeatedly begging for her liberty;

berty ; but no sooner did she presume to go towards the window, to make her distress evident to any casual passenger, than one or other of the women forced her away.

At length Mrs. Griffenburg gave orders that the window should be nailed up, but Lord Baltimore came in at the juncture, and pretended to be very angry at this proceeding, lest it should be suspected that murder was intended to be committed in the house. His lordship then told Miss Woodcock, that if she presumed to pull up the windows, or make any disturbance, he would throw her into the street; a circumstance by which she was greatly terrified.

This happened at the approach of night, and she continued weeping and lamenting her situation, and refused to take any refreshment at supper. When desired to go to bed, she refused to do so ; unless Lord Baltimore would solemnly promise not to molest her. On this she spent the night walking about the room, while the two women who were appointed to guard her went to bed.

In the morning she went into a parlour, where Lord Baltimore waiting on her, she endeavoured to represent his ill conduct in the most striking light, and begged that if he had the tenderness of a father for a child he would permit her to depart. He said that she might write to her father ; which she did ; and, fearful of giving offence, said that she had been treated “ with as much honour as she could expect, and begged her friends “ would come immediately.” Lord Baltimore was now out of the room ; but the women told Miss Woodcock that his lordship had sent £200. to her father on the preceding day. She seemed amazed at this circumstance, which appears to be a

proof of the anxiety of her mind at the time the letter was written.

Soon after this a servant came in with a letter as from the presumed Richard Smith. It was written in a language she did not understand; but Lord Baltimore pretended to explain it to her, saying it intimated that her father had been at Mr. Smith's, but would not wait while she was sent for.

In order to carry on the imposition, his lordship sent for a man who personated the supposed Mr. Smith; but Miss Woodcock was soon convinced that he had never seen her father, from the unsatisfactory answers that he gave to her enquiries.

After this Lord Baltimore played a tune, while the pretended Mr. Smith and Mrs. Harvey danced to the music; but in the mean time Miss Woodcock was tormented by a thousand conflicting passions. She was then shewn some fine paintings in the room, one of which being that of a ship in distress, she said it bore a great resemblance to her own unhappy situation.

Then the man called Smith was desired by Lord Baltimore to draw Miss Woodcock's picture; and he instantly pulled out a pencil, and made the drawing, while the young lady sat in a posture of extreme grief and dejection.

At midnight Mr. Broughton, his lordship's steward, brought intelligence that Isaacs the Jew, having offered a letter to Miss Woodcock's father, was stopped till he should give an account where the young lady was secreted. Lord Baltimore was, or affected to be, in a violent passion; and vowed vengeance against the father; but in the interim the Jew entered, and delivered a letter which he pretended to have received from Miss Woodcock's sister. She took it to read; but she

had wept so much that her eyes were sore; and of all she read she could recollect but this passage; "Only please to appoint a place where "and when we may meet with you."

The hour of retirement being arrived, Miss Woodcock refused to go up stairs, unless she might be assured of not receiving any insult from his lordship. She had not taken any sustenance since she entered the house. For this night she laid down in her cloaths, on a bed in which Mrs. Harvey reposed herself. She asked this bad woman if she had ever been in love; and acknowledged, that she herself was addressed by a young fellow, who appeared to be very fond of her, and that they were to settle in business as soon as the marriage should take place; wherefore she desired Mrs. Harvey to shew her the way out of a house that had been so obnoxious to her: but the answer of the latter was, that though she had lived in the house several years, she did not herself know the way out of it.

On the following morning, when Miss Woodcock went down stairs, she pleaded earnestly with Lord Baltimore for her liberty; on which he became most violently enraged, called her by the vilest names, and said that, if she spoke to him on the subject any more, he would either throw her out of the window, or send her home in a wheelbarrow, with her petticoats tied over her head; and turning to Isaacs the Jew, he said, "Take the "slut to a mean house, like herself;" which greatly terrified her, as she presumed he meant a house of ill fame.

The sufferings she had undergone, having by this time made her extremely ill, Lord Baltimore mixed a physical draught for her, which he insisted on her drinking.

On the Sunday afternoon he begged her to sit and hear him talk. His discourse consisted of a ridicule on religion, and every thing that was sacred, even to the denying the existence of a soul.

After supper he made six several attempts to ravish her within two hours ; but she repulsed him in such a determined manner, that it was impossible for him to accomplish his dishonourable purpose. On that night she lay with Mrs. Harvey ; but could get no rest, as she was in perpetual fear of renewed insults from his lordship.

On the Monday morning she was told that she should see her father, if she would dry her eyes, wash herself, and put on clean linen. Mrs. Griffenburg now supplied her with a change of linen ; and then she was hurried into the coach with Lord Baltimore, Doctor Griffenburg, and the two women. They were carried to Lord Baltimore's country seat at Epsom, where she experienced several fresh acts of indecency from her ignoble tormenter ; and on her again resisting him, he said she must submit that night, with or without her consent ; and in this declaration he was supported by the two infamous women.

At supper she ate a few mouthfuls ; but declined drinking any thing, lest some intoxicating matter should be mixed with the liquor. Lord Baltimore and his people now diverted themselves with the game of blindman's buff ; but Miss Woodcock refused to take any share in their ridiculous folly.

The two women now conducted her to the bed-chamber, and began to undress her ; nor was she capable of making much resistance, being weak, through want of food and continued grief. Still, however, she begged to be deprived of life, rather than submit to dishonourable treatment.

On

On the drawing of the curtains she observed that Lord Baltimore was in bed, which added to her former terrors : but she was not suffered to remain long in doubt :—the women left her ; but alas ! not to her repose ; for that night gave rise to the crime which furnished matter for the prosecution, of which we are now reciting the particulars.

Twice (according to Miss Woodcock's deposition) was this horrid purpose effected ; and though she called out repeatedly for help, yet she found none ; and in the morning, when she went to Mrs. Harvey's room, and told her what had passed, the latter advised her to be quiet, for that she had made noise enough already.

The infamous Harvey now hinting that worse consequences might still be expected, Miss Woodcock determined to seem content with her situation, disagreeable as it was, in the hope of obtaining the protection of her friends.

In this hope she frequently went to the window, flattering herself that she might see some person whom she knew. With the same view she went out once with his lordship, and once with Mrs. Griffenburg : and having accidentally heard the name of Lord Baltimore mentioned, she presumed this to be the person who had treated her so ill ; nor had she a guess who it was till this period.

On the afternoon of the day that she made this discovery they went to London, to the great joy of Miss Woodcock, who hoped now to find an easier communication with her friends. At her request she was permitted to sleep alone ; and the next day he introduced her to Madam Saunier, the governess to his lordship's natural daughters, telling her that Miss Woodcock had been recommended as a companion to the young ladies.

On this day he gave her some money, and desired her to dispose of it as she thought proper; and when night advanced he sent Mrs. Griffenburg to order her to come to bed. She at first refused to comply, and at length yielded only on conditional terms. What passed this night is too horrid for relation.

On the following day Mrs. Griffenburg told her that she had been preparing another apartment for her, and begged that she would come and see it; and conducted her to a stone garret, which was remarkably cold and damp; and being among the servants' apartments, she began to apprehend that Lord Baltimore, having gratified his own passion, was disposed to transfer her to his dependants.

Miss Woodcock's friends now began to form some conjectures where she might be secreted; and Mr. Davis, a young fellow who had paid his addresses to her, determined to exert himself to ascertain the fact.

On the Sunday he placed himself under the window of Lord Baltimore's house, and had not been there long before she saw him, and intimated that she did so. On this, Davis took out a book, motioning with his hand for her to write. She then waved her hand for him to approach; but as he did not seem to comprehend her meaning, she ran into another room, and said, "I cannot come to you; is my father well?"—He answered that all parties were well, and asked what was become of Mrs. Harvey. The young lady now put down the window and retired, unable any longer to continue the conversation.

Mr. Davis now went and informed Miss Woodcock's father of the discovery he had made; on which the old gentleman went to Mr. Cay, a baker in

in White-cross-street, to ask his opinion. Mr. Cay went with him to Mr. Watts, an attorney, who advised them to make application to Lord Mansfield for a writ of Habeas Corpus: but it may be now necessary to take notice of what passed between Lord Baltimore and Miss Woodcock in the mean time.

On the day following that on which she had been seen by Davis, his lordship told her that she should see her father that day, at Dr. Griffenburg's in Dean-street, Soho; and he said he would make a settlement on her for life, if she would acknowledge that she had been well treated. This she agreed to, in the hope of obtaining her freedom. She was then told that her father had caused Mrs. Harvey to be taken into custody.

Lord Baltimore now went to Griffenburg's with Miss Woodcock, taking likewise a young lady, of whom she was to declare herself the companion: but they had been only a few minutes at Griffenburg's, when a servant came to apprise his lordship that Sir John Fielding's people had surrounded his house.

Lord Baltimore, having previously sent one of his servants with a letter to Miss Woodcock's father, now ordered a coach; and he, and Dr. Griffenburg, and the young lady now went to a tavern in Whitechapel, in quest of the servant, who told them that Mr. Woodcock having been out all day in search of his daughter; and not being returned, he (the servant) would not leave the letter, from a point of prudence.

Hereupon they drove to a house in Covent-garden, where the servant soon arrived with a note from Sir John Fielding's clerk, desiring Miss Woodcock to come to Bow-street, where her friends were, in expectation of her arrival. Fearful of
taking

taking any step that might involve her in still farther difficulties, she shewed lord Baltimore the note, when he declared she should not comply with the contents; and they immediately drove to Dr. Griffenburg's.

At this place they were met by his lordship's steward, who said his house was still surrounded by peace-officers; but as they went away soon afterwards, this unworthy peer then took Miss Woodcock home in his own carriage.

On their arrival, the valet de chambre told his master that on the Sunday morning the young lady had spoken to a person from the window. His lordship now demanded if this was fact. She acknowledged that it was; but said she had not acquainted her friends with her distressed situation.

He now tried to calm her mind, but said that she must sleep with him that night, which she positively refused, unless he would engage not to offer her any insult; and this promise was made, and complied with.

In the morning Mr. Watts, the attorney, called at Lord Baltimore's house with a writ of Habeas Corpus; but the porter would not admit him till he produced the writ; but then he was asked into the house, and Lord Baltimore made acquainted with his business. On this his lordship told his prisoner Mr. Watts's business, and begged she would prepare to see him with all possible composure.

In the interim, his lordship waited on the attorney, who demanded whether one Sarah Woodcock was in his house: but, on his declining to give an immediate answer, Watts said, that he would serve the writ, unless she was instantly produced, and that the consequence would be that all
his

his doors must be broke open till she was found : but he hoped that so violent a procedure would not be necessary.

His lordship now begged his patience for a short time, and his requisition should be complied with. Mr. Watts agreed to wait, and the other going to Miss Woodcock, requested her to write to her father, and declare that she had been used with tenderness, and had consented to her then situation; and he desired her to add that she wished to see her father and sisters, but hoped their visit would be of the peaceful kind; and with all this she complied, in hope, as she afterwards declared, of obtaining her liberty.

This letter being sealed, and dispatched by one of his lordship's servants, he introduced the attorney to Miss Woodcock, who asked her if her residence in that house was matter of choice, or whether she was forcibly detained. She replied, that she remained there by her own consent, but that she was anxious to see her father.

With this declaration Mr. Watts appeared satisfied, saying, that no person had any right to interfere, if she voluntarily consented to her situation.

His lordship then intimated, that it would be proper for her to go to lord Mansfield, and make a similar declaration. She made no hesitation to comply with this proposal; but still appeared exceedingly anxious to have a conference with her father.

On this the parties went to lord Mansfield's house in Bloomsbury-square, where they were shewn into different apartments; and Miss Woodcock's friends waited in an anti-chamber, to hear the issue of this extraordinary affair.

The young lady being examined by lord Mansfield, he enquired minutely into the circumstances respecting her being conveyed to lord Baltimore's house. She answered every question in the most explicit manner; and, when the judge asked her if she was willing to live with his lordship, she answered in the affirmative; but expressed great earnestness to see her friends first.

On this she was shewn into the room where her friends waited; and the first question she asked was, "who lord Mansfield was, and whether he had a right to set her at liberty?" She was told that his right was indisputable; and his lordship being again consulted, he enquired if she still adhered to her former opinion: to which she replied that she did not, but desired to go home with her father.

His lordship then asked her, how happened the sudden change in her mind. Her answer was, "because, till I saw them, I did not know you had power to release me." His lordship then said, "Child, it is in my power to let you go;" and told her she was at full liberty to go where she pleased: on which she went into the other room to her friends, but was unable to express her joy on the occasion.

In the interim, lord Mansfield addressed the reverend Mr. Watson, a dissenting minister, and some other persons present, to the following effect, "Gentlemen, I would have you take notice of Miss Woodcock's answers, because possibly this matter may be variously talked of in public, and justice ought to be done to both parties; for, when this lady came before me on her private examination, she expressed a desire to see her father and sister, or sisters; and now she has answered as you have heard."

On Miss Woodcock's discharge, Mr. Cay, the baker in White-Cross-street, (to whom her father had delivered the two hundred pound bank-note, which had been inclosed in the letter by lord Baltimore) conveyed the young lady to Sir John Fielding, before whom she swore to the actual commission of the rape by lord Baltimore.

At this time Mrs. Griffenburg and Mrs. Harvey were in custody; and a warrant was issued to apprehend lord Baltimore; but he secreted himself for the present, and surrendered to the court of King's Bench on the last day of Hillary term, 1768; and the two women being brought thither by habeas corpus, they were all admitted to bail, in order for trial at Kingston in Surry, because the crime was alledged to have been committed at his lordship's seat at Epsom.

In the interim, Miss Woodcock went to the house of Mr. Cay, in White-Cross-street; but not being properly accommodated there, she went to the house of a friend, where she lived in great privacy and retirement, till the time arrived for the trial of the offending parties.

Bills of indictment being found against lord Baltimore, and the two women, they were all brought to trial before the lord chief baron Smythe; and, after the evidence against them had been given, in substance as may be collected from the preceding narrative, lord Baltimore made the following defence, which was read in court by Mr. Hamersley, solicitor to his lordship.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I have put myself upon my country, in hopes that prejudice and clamor will avail nothing in this place, where ~~it~~ is the privilege of the meanest of

the king's subjects to be presumed innocent, until his guilt has been made appear by legal evidence. I wish I could say that I had been treated abroad with the same candor. I have been loaded with obloquy, the most malignant libels have been circulated, and every other method which malice could devise, has been taken to create general prejudice against me. I thank God, that, under such circumstances, I have had firmness and resolution enough to meet my accusers face to face, and provoke an enquiry into my conduct. *Hic murus abeneus est—nil conscire sibi.* The charge against me, and against these poor people, who are involved with me, because they might otherwise have been just witnesses of my innocence, is in its nature very easy to be made, and hard to be disproved. The accuser has the advantage of supporting it by a direct and positive oath; the defence can only be collected from circumstances.

My defence is composed then of a variety of circumstances; all tending to shew the fallacy of this charge, the absurdity of it, the improbability that it could be true. It will be laid before the jury, under the direction of my counsel; and I have the confidence of an innocent man, that it will be manifest to your lordship, the jury, and the whole world, that the story told by this woman is a perversion of truth in every particular. What could induce her to make such a charge, I can only suspect: very soon after she came to my house, upon a representation to me that her father was distressed, I sent him a considerable sum of money; whether the ease with which that money was obtained from me might suggest the idea as a means of obtaining a larger sum of money, or whether it was thought necessary to destroy me, in order

to establish the character of the girl to the world, I know not; but I do aver, upon the word of a man of honour, that there is no truth in any thing which has been said or sworn of my having offered violence to this girl. I ever held such brutality in abhorrence: I am totally against all force; and for me to have forced this woman, considering my weak state of health, and my strength, is not only a moral, but a physical impossibility. She is, as to bodily strength, stronger than I am. Strange opinions, upon subjects foreign to this charge, have been falsely imputed to me, to inflame this accusation. Libertine as I am represented, I hold no such opinions. Much has been said against me; that I seduced this girl from her parents: seduction is not the point of this charge; but I do assure your lordship and the jury, this part of the case has been aggravated exceedingly beyond the truth. If I have been in any degree to blame, I am sure I have sufficiently atoned for every indiscretion, which a weak attachment to this unworthy woman may have led me into, by having suffered the disgrace of being exposed as a criminal at the bar, in the county which my father had the honour to represent in parliament, and where I had some pretensions to have attained the same honour, had that sort of an active life been my object.

I will take up no more of your lordship's time than to add, that, if I had been conscious of the guilt now imputed to me, I could have kept myself and my fortune out of the reach of the laws of this country. I am a citizen of the world; I could have lived any where; but I love my own country, and submit to its laws; resolving that my innocence should be justified by the laws. I now, by my own voluntary act, by surrendering myself

to the court of King's-Bench, stake, upon the verdict of twelve men, my life, my fortune, and, what is dearer to me, my honour.

March 25, 1768.

BALTIMORE.

The substance of the defences of Mrs. Griffenburg and Mrs. Harvey consisted principally in alledging that Miss Woodcock had consented to all that had passed, and that no force had been used towards her, either by lord Baltimore or themselves.

The evidence of Dr. Griffenburg was not admitted, as his name was upon record, on a charge of having been concerned in a crime of a similar nature.

After every thing alledged against the prisoners had been heard in the most dispassionate manner, the judge addressed himself to the jury in the following terms :

Gentlemen of the jury,

The prisoner at the bar, lord Baltimore, stands indicted for feloniously ravishing, and carnally knowing, Sarah Woodcock, spinster, against her will, on the 22d of December last, at Epsom, against the statute which makes this offence felony : and the other two prisoners are indicted as accessaries before the fact, by feloniously and maliciously procuring, aiding and abetting lord Baltimore to commit the said rape, at the same time and place. To this they have pleaded not guilty ; and you are to try if they are guilty. Before I state to you the evidence, I will mention to you two or three things : in the first place, my lord complains of libels, and printed accounts of this transaction, which have been circulated. It is a most unjustifiable practice, and tends

to the perversion of public justice; and, therefore, if you have seen any thing printed on the side of the prosecutrix, or the prisoners, I must desire you to divest yourselves of any prejudice that such publications may have occasioned, and give your verdict only on the evidence now laid before you. Another thing I desire is, that, which ever way the verdict is given, none of the friends of any of the parties will make use of any expressions of approbation or applause, which are extremely improper and indecent in a court of justice, and I shall certainly commit any person whom I know to be guilty of it. The last thing I shall mention to you, is, to desire that no resentment you may feel at the manner in which she was carried to lord Baltimore's house may have any influence on your verdict; for however unwarrantable the manner was in which she came into his power, if at the time he lay with her it was by her consent, he is not guilty of the offence of which he is indicted; though it was proper to be given in evidence on this trial, to account for her being with him, and his having an opportunity of committing the crime; and to shew, from the indirect manner of getting her to his house, the greater probability that her account is true. Having said this, I will now state to you the whole evidence as particularly as I can.

Mr. Baron Smythe then stated the whole of the evidence to the jury, as before given, which took up three hours, and then concluded thus:

In point of law, the fact is fully proved on my lord, and the two other prisoners, if you believe the evidence of Sarah Woodcock. It is a crime which in its nature can only be proved by the woman on whom it is committed; for she only can tell whether she consented or no; it is, as my lord observes,

observes, very easy to be made, and hard to be disproved; and the defence can only be collected from circumstances; from these you must judge whether her evidence is or is not to be believed. Lord Hale, in his history of the pleas of the crown*, lays down the rules: 1. If complaint is not made soon after the injury is supposed to be received; 2. If it is not followed by a recent prosecution, a strong presumption arises that the complaint is malicious. She has owned the injury was received December 21; the complaint was not made till December 29; but she has accounted for it in the manner you have heard. The strong part of the case on behalf of the prisoners is, her not complaining when she was at lord Mansfield's, the supreme magistrate in the kingdom in criminal matters. You have heard how she has explained and accounted for her conduct in that particular, which you will judge of. Upon the whole, if you believe that she made the discovery as soon as she knew she had an opportunity of doing it, and that her account is true, you will find all the prisoners guilty: if you believe that she did not make the discovery as soon as she had an opportunity, and from thence, or other circumstances, are not satisfied her account is true, you will find them all not guilty; for if he is not guilty, they cannot be so; for they cannot be accessory to a crime which was never committed. After an absence of an hour and twenty minutes, the jury returned with a verdict that the prisoners were not guilty.

This singular affair was tried at Kingston in Surry, on the 26th of March, 1768.

Out

Our Readers will not be displeased with a few remarks on this very extraordinary transaction: The meanness of Lord Baltimore, the unreasonable terror and ignorance of Miss Woodcock, will appear to be equal objects of astonishment. His lordship's devices to obtain possession of this woman were beneath the dignity of a nobleman, or indeed of any man; and her tame submission to the insult is a proof that she had little idea of the sacred protection which the laws of her country would have afforded her; for Lord Baltimore's house* is not so obscurely situated, but that she might have made application to many a passenger.

Something, indeed, must be allowed to feminine fear on such an occasion, after she once found herself in the actual possession of a man from whom she thought it would be dangerous even to attempt an escape.

Miss Woodcock's ignorance of Lord Mansfield's power will appear very extraordinary; but surely not more so than that of a man, who, being an evidence before Sir John Fielding, addressed him successively by the titles of Sir! your honour! your worship! your lordship! your grace! and your majesty! These appellations were repeatedly heard to be given within half an hour, by the writer of this narrative: and he presumes the circumstance may be considered as an apology for the superlative ignorance of Miss Woodcock.

On the whole, however, this case is of the melancholy kind. What shall we think of a man, of Lord Baltimore's rank and fortune, who could

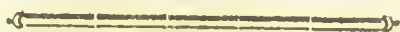
VOL. IV. No. 40. Y y debase

* This house is at the bottom of Southampton-row, Bloomsbury.

debase himself beneath all rank and distinction, and, by the wish to gratify his irregular passions, submit to degrade himself in the opinion of his own servants and other domestics.

Addison has a fine sentiment, by which our nobility ought to be influenced :

Honour's a sacred tie :—the law of kings,
The noble mind's distinguishing perfection :
It aids and strengthens virtue where it meets her,
And imitates her actions where she is not :
It is not to be sported with.



Account of JAMES SAMPSON, who was executed at *Tyburn*, for a *Robbery* committed in the House of *General Conway*, to the Library of which he set fire with a View of concealing his Guilt.

WHILE Sampson was a boy, he gave proofs of an extraordinary genius for drawing, to which his friends affording proper encouragement, his progress in the art was exceedingly rapid. The youth's uncommon talents being mentioned to the duke of Richmond, his grace engaged him in his service on very liberal terms, and employed masters properly qualified to afford every possible improvement to his fine genius.

The war being concluded, the duke returned from Germany, and soon afterwards warmly recommended Sampson to the patronage of the Right Honourable General Conway, who appointed him one of the draughtsmen to the Tower.

The greatest part of his time that was not engaged in a necessary attention to the duties of his office, Sampson employed in making copies of the natural

natural curiosities in the British Museum, and in the conversation of learned and ingenious men, by whom that celebrated library was frequented; and he was so highly esteemed both by the Duke of Richmond and General Conway, that he had free access to them on all occasions. Having married an upper-servant in the general's family, he appeared to live in a state of great felicity: but unfortunately he maintained an illicit intercourse with some women of debauched principles, whose extravagancies involved him in many embarrassments.

Being allowed the liberty of amusing himself in the general's library, he learnt that money and papers of consequence were kept there; and this tempted him to the fatal resolution of robbing his benefactor, and setting fire to the house, as a means of concealing his guilt.

Having concealed himself in the house, he waited till he supposed the family were retired to rest, and then entered the library, where he stole property to a considerable amount, and set fire to some of the furniture.

About six in the morning the general was alarmed by the cry of, "fire!" and perceived smoke issuing from the library: but he would not permit the door to be opened till the engines arrived, lest the flames should burst out, and communicate to the other parts of the building. The engines being ready to play, he directed the firemen to use their endeavours to secure a writing-table that stood in a corner of the room, several bank notes being deposited in a drawer thereof. The table was brought out, a part of it burnt, and the drawer open in which the bank-notes had been deposited; and the general put all the papers he found in the drawer into his pocket.

When the confusion occasioned by the supposed accident had subsided, the general examined the papers taken out of the drawer, and missing a bank-note of five hundred pounds and four of an hundred pounds each, concluded that the room had been fired, for the purpose of concealing the robbery.

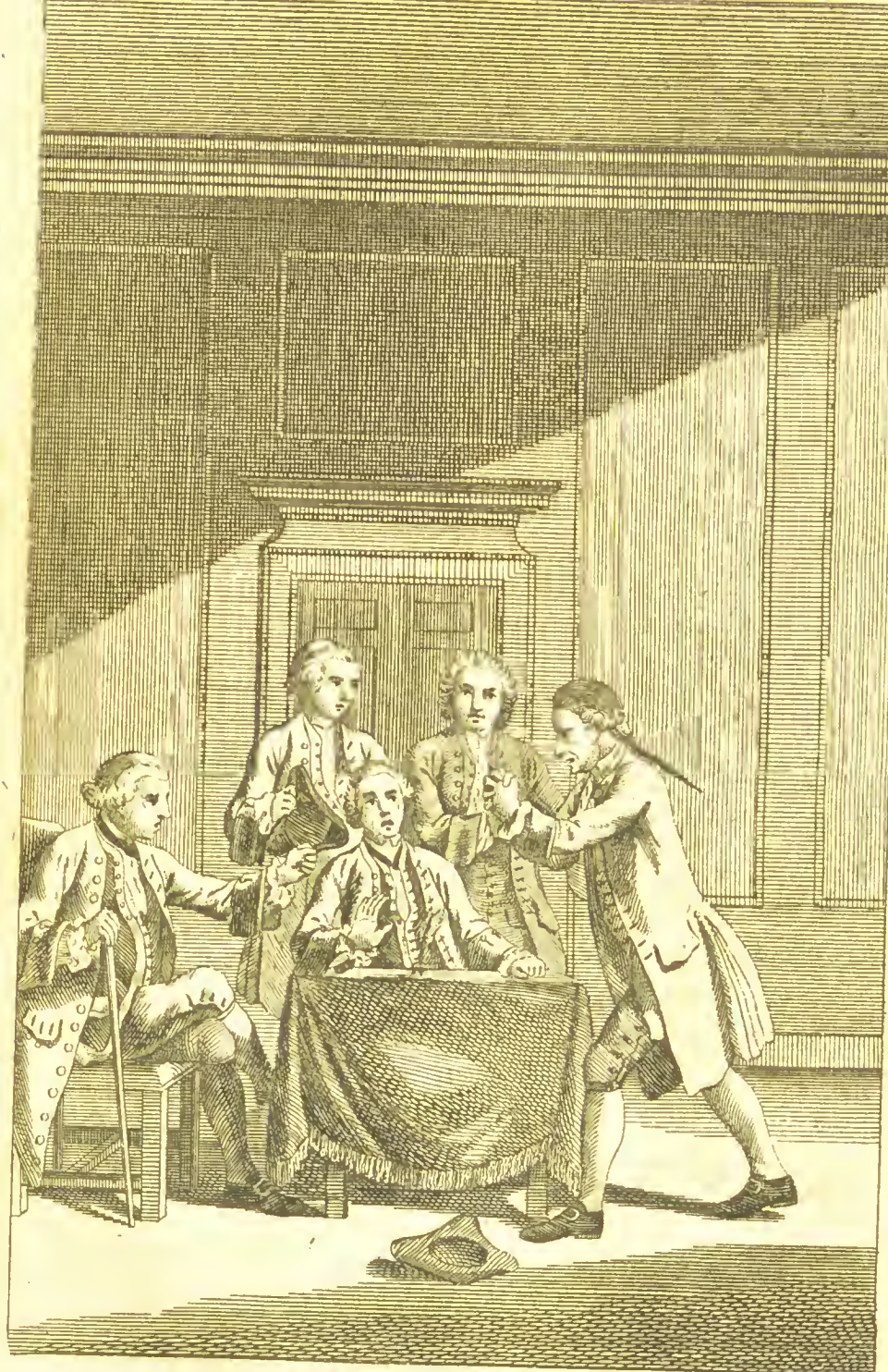
All the domestics in the house had lived many years in the general's service, and he had the firmest confidence in their fidelity; but, in order to secure his property, and discover the author of the horrid fact, which he strongly suspected to have been committed by some person well acquainted with his house; he made application to the bank, where he learnt that the note for five hundred pounds had been already changed for others of smaller value; and, from the description of the person who had changed it, his suspicions were fixed on Sampson.

It was now determined, that Mr. Camp who had received the note, and Mr. Lambert who had delivered the smaller ones on Camp's ticket, should attend at the Duke of Richmond's house at an appointed hour.

The duke sent a servant to Sampson's lodgings, desiring to see him on business; and he presently attended, and entered into conversation on different subjects with his grace and General Conway. The abovementioned clerks to the bank being introduced, and immediately recognizing the person of Sampson, a signal was made that had been before agreed on; in consequence of which, the general accused Sampson of the robbery and setting fire to the library. For some time he steadily denied the charge: but, finding no possibility of confuting the evidence of Camp and Lambert, he, at length, confessed all the particulars of his guilt.

Sampson's





*Sampson examined before the Duke of Richmond
& others.*

Valeris sculp

Sampson's lodgings at Pimlico being searched, the two notes received at the bank, and the four stolen from the drawer of the writing-table, were found. The delinquent being taken before Sir John Fielding, he was committed to Newgate in order for trial, which came on at the following sessions at the Old-Bailey, when he was convicted, and sentenced to be hanged.

While he remained in Newgate, he regularly attended prayers in the chapel, and appeared to repent, with unfeigned sincerity, of the horrid crime he had committed; and on the morning of his execution he received the sacrament in a manner that seemed to prove him earnest in his devotion.

The passage of carriages being obstructed by the pavement being broken up in Holborn, Sampson was conveyed through Smithfield, Cow-cross, Turnmill-street, and the King's-road, to Tyburn, where he acknowledged the justice of his sentence, and, after some time employed in prayer, suffered the punishment due to his offences.

James Sampson was executed at Tyburn on the 11th of May, 1768.

Through the bounty of his generous benefactors, Sampson was in possession of an income that would have supported him in a stile of gentility. As a man of genius, he was liberally encouraged; and, notwithstanding his inferior station in life, those respectable characters, who had raised him from an obscure state to a handsome independency, honoured him with their particular friendship and esteem: but though thus encouraged, and married to a very deserving woman, he degraded his character by a shameful intercourse with the most abandoned of the female sex, for the supply of whose extravagance he resolved on the commission of a crime of the

the most heinous nature ; and the measure he adopted for preventing a discovery was less pardonable than his previous offence.

Ingratitude is sufficiently detestable when unattended with circumstances of such abominable aggravations as were manifested in the present case. The setting fire to the library to the endangering the life of the general, and, indeed, the lives of his whole family, was an instance of wickedness that cannot be mentioned in terms of sufficient abhorrence. Had the diabolical intention of Sampson proved effectual, he might have escaped the pursuit of justice : but his peace of mind must have been inevitably ruined ; he could scarcely have enjoyed one moment's respite from the sharp upbraidings of a conscience oppressed with so enormous a weight of guilt.



Narative of the unhappy Death of Mr. PIMLOT, who was murdered by ELIZABETH RICHARDSON, whom he supported in a State of Concubinage.

ELIZABETH RICHARDSON was seduced from the paths of virtue at an early period of life ; and after subsisting some years on the wages of casual prostitution, she was taken into keeping by Mr. Pimlot, an attorney-at-law, who had chambers in Symond's-inn.

Whether she had cause for jealousy is uncertain ; but she was inflamed with that passion to a degree of violence, and frequently went to his chambers in the expectation of finding him engaged with some other woman,





Mr. W.^m Pimlott murdered: by Eliz. Richardson. Valer's sculp.

On a Sunday evening Mr. Pimlot was engaged with some friends at a house in Fleet-street; and Richardson going to his chambers, and not finding him there, determined to wait till his return. About twelve o'clock, Mr. Pimlot entered his chambers without being perceived by the woman, and went to bed.

In about half an hour she returned to the chambers, and in a most riotous manner insisted upon being admitted, declaring with horrid imprecations that she would not depart till she had seen Mr. Pimlot, who for some time made no answer; which exasperating her to still greater outrage, she gave vent to her passion in the most profane language, and, after breaking one of the panes of the window, she went towards the passage leading to Chancery-lane, but turning back, she was met by Mr. Pimlot, who gave her into custody of the watch. She was no sooner taken into custody than, with a sharp-pointed pen-knife, with a blade about two inches long, she struck Mr. Pimlot under the left breast. The watchman said, "You break the peace, madam, and I must take you to the watch-house." Immediately after this, Mr. Pimlot, taking the knife from the wound, said, in a faint and tremulous voice, "Here, watchman, take this knife; she has stabbed me."

Mr. Pimlot proceeded to the watch-house, being followed by the constable and his prisoner. He sat down in the constable's chair, and, opening his waistcoat, the blood was seen issuing from his wound; and leaning down his head, he presently expired, without speaking. The knife was examined, and blood appeared upon the blade.

When she perceived the blood issuing from Mr. Pimlot's wound, she clasped her hands, and exclaimed,

claimed, "What have I done! O, Mr. Wilfon! it was I that did this shocking deed: instantly send for a surgeon, send for a surgeon. I have murdered, I fear, I have murdered my dear Pimlot." She was immediately sent to New-prison; and her tears, and other passionate expressions of sorrow, proved her to be deeply penetrated by affliction for the crime she had committed.

A watchman was sent for Mr. Minors, a surgeon in Chancery-lane; but he being in bed, two of his pupils accompanied the watchman; but upon their arrival they found the gentleman dead.

On the following day the body was opened by Mr. Minors, who found that the heart was penetrated, and that the wound exactly corresponded with the figure of the knife. The coroner's jury being summoned, a verdict of wilful murder was found against the prisoner, who was brought to trial at the next sessions at the Old Bailey: and being found guilty of the indictment, on the most indisputable evidence, she was sentenced to be executed on the following Monday.

The time of her execution was prolonged, on account of the sheriffs being obliged to attend the election of members of parliament for the county of Middlesex.

From the time of her committing the murder to that of her death, this unhappy woman employed herself in a truly contrite manner, regularly attending public devotions, and at other times employing herself in earnest prayer, and in reading such religious books and scriptural passages as were recommended to her perusal. She regretted the wicked course of life she had led, and declared that the crime of spilling innocent blood was insupportably afflicting, especially as she considered that she

She had robbed a fellow-creature of existence at a time when he was, perhaps, not sufficiently prepared for entering into the awful scene of eternity. But she declared that she cherished hopes of obtaining forgiveness at the throne of the Almighty, through the merits of his only Son, the merciful and blessed Saviour of Mankind.

She received the sacrament with marks of unfeigned piety; and she was attended to the fatal spot by the ordinary of Newgate and another clergyman, with whom she joined in devout prayer, after which she was turned off; and having hung the usual time, her body was conveyed to Surgeons' hall in order for dissection.

Elizabeth Richardson was executed at Tyburn on the 21st of December, 1768.

From this case we may learn the danger of forming connexions with dissolute women, who, however amiable at the time of seduction, in proportion to the scenes of disorder and outrage to which they must necessarily be accustomed, will degenerate from their original character. A life of irregularity and debauchery will soon destroy every personal attraction; and the mind is debased in the same degree.

The life of a prostitute is inexpressibly miserable. Frequent, if not almost continual inebriety, is scarcely to be avoided; she is compelled to submit to every species of the most provoking insult; she is sensible that the caresses she receives must be succeeded by loathings and disgust; she considers herself as having forfeited all claim to the tenderness and delicacy that are due to the rest of her own sex, and painfully reflects that her person, which once inspired delight, is now beheld with worse than indifference by the other.

Thus deplorably circumstanced, her judgment must of course be impaired, and therefore she is more liable to be transported to violence and outrage by the sudden gusts of passion, which by long indulgence has acquired too much strength to submit to the controul of reason. When by lingering disease she is reduced to the verge of the grave, if she dares to take a retrospect of the path of iniquity she has trod, such a shocking scene presents itself, that conscious guilt and shame agitate her mind almost to distraction; a thousand dreadful apprehensions render her incapable of atonement adequate to her crimes, and she sinks into eternity in a state of reprobation!



Account of the remarkable Case of JOHN ANDREW MARTIN, who was executed for a *Burglary* in the House of VALENTINE KNIGHT.

THIS malefactor was a native of Norway, and being bred a seaman, he continued in that capacity several years, during which he gave frequent proofs of being addicted to thieving and other infamous practices.

At length he quitted the maritime way of life and came to London, where he married a young woman, by whom he had two children.

He had not been long in the metropolis before he determined to commence house-breaker, and carefully to avoid joining with any accomplices, lest such a measure should lead to a discovery of his guilt.

He hired handsome lodgings in the Minories, and from his appearance and manner of living the people of the house imagined him to be a gentleman of independent fortune. This favourable opinion, however, was frustrated, upon his being twice apprehended on suspicion of burglarious practices, though neither of them could be proved against him.

It will be wholly needless to record the numerous felonies of which Martin was guilty, as they were not attended with remarkable circumstances, or perpetrated in such manner as to admit of much variety in relation. We shall, therefore, confine ourselves to the fact for which he suffered.

Learning that Mr. Valentine Knight, a jeweller of Noble-street near Cheapside, constantly kept a stock of valuable articles in his house; that he was confined to his bed, and that the family consisted of the sick man, his wife, a servant-maid, an apprentice, and a lodger named Reynoldson, and his wife, and that the family slept in the upper apartments; he determined to break into the house.

Having provided himself with proper implements, he tore up the flap of the cellar window, and then forcing open the door leading to the passage on the ground floor, he easily gained admittance to the parlour, the door of which was fastened by a brass spring-lock and a strong padlock. In the parlour he perceived a bureau, secured by an iron bar with a strong padlock, and on the bureau a mahogany case fitted up with small drawers and glass folding doors. He wrenched the bar from the bureau, and stole thereout divers valuable articles; and from the glazed case he took three drawers, containing divers sorts of jewellery work.

About three in the morning Mr. Reynoldson alarmed Mrs. Knight, saying he believed robbers had broke into the house. Mrs. Knight presently followed her lodger down stairs; but the villain was escaped, though with a less valuable booty than he would have obtained had he not been interrupted.

Mrs. Knight lodged speedy information of the robbery at Sir John Fielding's office; and hand-bills, particularising the stolen effects, were soon distributed among the pawnbrokers and silversmiths in the metropolis and its adjacencies.

About a month after the robbery, a discovery took place in the following manner: Martin called upon Mr. Davis in the Minories, and offered him for sale seven pair of garnet ear-rings set in gold, and fifteen pair of gold buttons. Davis desired Martin, (with whom he had been long acquainted, though he was wholly ignorant of his villainous practices) to call for an answer at three in the afternoon of the same day; and in the mean time sent his son to a jeweller named Wintle, with a request that he would estimate the value of the goods.

Upon examining the articles, Mr. Wintle concluded them to be part of what had been stolen from Mr. Knight. He immediately carried the goods to Noble-street, and they were identified by Mrs. Knight. Hereupon Mr. Wintle and Mr. Pearce went to Davis's house, and waited till the arrival of Martin, when he was taken into custody, and charged with the robbery, of which he obstinately persisted in declaring himself innocent. A coach being called for conveying the prisoner to Sir John Fielding's office, he had no sooner entered the vehicle than he attempted to escape at the
opposite

opposite door, but was prevented by the constable.

Upon his examination, there appeared great reason to believe him guilty, and he was therefore committed to prison, and a warrant granted for searching his lodgings.

Mr. Wintle, and other gentlemen, attended the search; and the prisoner's apartments were found to contain watches, jewellery work, linen, china, silks, and divers other kinds of effects, to a very great amount. It was his custom to keep the stolen goods some weeks in his possession before offering them for sale, that he might be less liable to detection.

The property being conveyed to Sir John Fielding's office, a great number of shop-keepers and other persons attended, and claimed the several articles that had been stolen from them.

Martin solicited to be admitted an evidence for the crown, alledging that it was in his power to make discoveries that would prove highly beneficial to the public: but his request was denied. He afterwards acknowledged that he had no accomplices, and declared that he had never entertained the idea of preserving his own life by accusing the innocent.

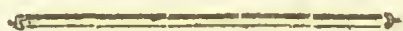
While he was under confinement this unhappy man behaved in a decent and penitent manner, being daily attended by two Lutheran ministers, who remained with him on the morning of his execution from about six o'clock till near nine, when he was called into the press-yard, where he found several relations waiting to take a last farewell.

He read and prayed alternately in his way to the place of execution, where he addressed the
popu-

populace, exhorting them strictly to adhere to the principles of honesty, as the means of ensuring substantial happiness. He then sung a psalm, and having prayed about a quarter of an hour, he suffered the sentence of the law.

John Andrew Martin was executed at Tyburn on the 11th of January, 1769.

Wealth obtained by illegal practices will ever become a torment to the possessor; for he must be in continual apprehension that his infamously acquired property will prove the means of discovering his guilt. Let our readers be apprized, that even the scanty wages of honest industry will prove the source of infinitely higher satisfaction, than can possibly arise from the utmost profusion gained by a forfeiture of integrity.



The very remarkable Case of MOSES ALEXANDER, who was executed for *Forgery*, in endorsing a Note of Hand with the name of BROWN.

THE unhappy man, whose memoirs it is our present task to record, was a native of the city of Glasgow in North Britain. He was scarcely arrived to manhood when he travelled to London; and for several years he carried a pack about the country, retailing different sorts of goods, but linen was the principal article in which he dealt. He was naturally of an industrious disposition; and his industry procured him success. He made overtures of marriage to a young woman, who had two uncles possessed of considerable property; and knowing that they intended to give her a marriage-portion, and to make her their heir, he
gained

gained credit for a large assortment of linen-drapery goods, and opened a warehouse on Fish-street-hill, with a view of giving himself consequence with his intended bride and her wealthy relations.

The young woman's relations, believing Alexander to be in flourishing circumstances, gave their consent to the marriage, which was in a short time solemnized; and soon afterwards he connected himself in partnership with a linen-draper in Holborn named Nicol, who was a man of unblemished integrity, but encumbered with a numerous family, and some pecuniary embarrassments.

Mr. Nicol being perfectly conversant in the wholesale branch of the linen trade, it was agreed that he should travel to Manchester, Glasgow, and other places, for the purpose of purchasing goods. Alexander kept the circumstance of his partnership a profound secret from his wife's relations; but after he had obtained from them several considerable sums, the matter was divulged in the following manner.

One of his wife's uncles happened to be in Alexander's counting-house, when a bill was brought for acceptance, payable by Alexander and Nicol. Hereupon the gentleman upbraided Alexander for concealing from him so material a circumstance as that of his being connected in partnership: the other declared, that no partnership subsisted; that Nicol was no more than his servant, and had inserted his own name in the draft either through mistake or villany.

Mr. Nicol returned to London in about two months, when Alexander denied his having a right to part of the business; and said he would submit the decision of the case to the court of chancery.

Though articles of co-partnership had been regularly executed, Mr. Nicol was averse to involv-
ing

ing himself in an expensive suit of law, which he feared his circumstances would not enable him to support; and therefore he declined engaging in a tedious contention with a man who had treated him in so injurious a manner.

The difference between Nicol and Alexander took place in the summer of 1765; and about eight months afterwards the latter, who had quitted his house on Fish-street-hill, and opened a warehouse in Tooley-street, Southwark, failed to the amount of about sixty thousand pounds: and it was then publicly known, that he was the principal of a great number of retail shopsestablished in different parts of the town, under a variety of names; and it was considered as an extraordinary circumstance that, with a capital so very inadequate to the extensive trade into which he had launched, he should be able to support his credit for so long a period: but the public surprize abated when it was discovered that he had chiefly depended on the circulation of notes of hand and bills of exchange.

Some time having elapsed, he engaged again in business, and a second failure took place; though for a sum greatly inferior to the claims of his former creditors.

He had now no expectations of assistance from his wife's relations; but he contrived means for establishing himself again in business, which he was the better enabled to carry on by means of notes of hand being frequently lent him by a man named Brown.

Brown was in France towards the end of the year 1768; and about that time he became connected with one Aked, of Leeds in Yorkshire, whose notes he passed for the support of his drooping credit in the manner that he had formerly negociated those of Brown.

Alex-

Alexander borrowed eighty pounds on a note of Aked's, indorsed in the name of Brown, for ninety eight pounds, six shillings; and it not being paid when due, he gave Mr. Fryar, who had advanced the money, another note, as collateral security, assuring him that in a few days the notes should be redeemed.

At length Fryar accused Alexander of Forgery; and he was committed to Newgate. He was acquitted on indictments found against him for two other offences of a similar nature; but though several witnesses swore the writing was not the prisoner's, he was convicted of forging the endorsement on the bill for ninety-eight pounds six shillings. Brown would have proved the most material witness; and, had he been in England, the prisoner would, perhaps, have derived great advantage from his evidence.

The behaviour of Alexander in Newgate was such as could on no account be disapproved in a man under his unhappy circumstances; but he entertained strong hopes of being considered as an object of the royal mercy. From a variety of circumstances great numbers of people believed him to be innocent of the fact; and very powerful interest was made for preserving his life.

On the morning appointed for his execution he was respited for a week; before the expiration of that time, and it being represented that messengers were gone to France in search of Brown, he was respited for a week longer.

Brown's affidavit was brought from France, expressing that he wrote the indorsement that Alexander had been charged with forging. The affidavit being carried to his Majesty at Richmond, he

was pleased to refer the matter to Lord Weymouth; but his lordship's interference could not be obtained, he being then at his country seat.

The sheriffs attended at Newgate the next morning, in order to conduct the prisoner to the place of execution. He informed them that his friends were gone to Richmond, to make a second application to the King; and they consented to defer their melancholy office till the issue of the intercession should be known.

No further respite being obtained, the prisoner was taken from Newgate about half past twelve o'clock, attended by a dissenting minister, with whom he prayed in an earnest and devout manner. At the place of execution his behaviour was decent and composed; and he persisted in the declaration of his innocence till the last moments of his life.

Moses Alexander was executed at Tyburn about half past two in the afternoon of the 9th of August, 1769.

The imprudence of Alexander in launching into a trade too extensive for his capital to support produced a train of difficulties that ended in an ignominious death. His conduct in regard to Mr. Nicol proved him to be divested of all principles of integrity; and certain it is that in several instances he was guilty of forgery, and other unjustifiable practices; but whether he committed the offence of which he was convicted, is a question that we pretend not to decide.

We are aware, that, if legal decisions were to be frequently reversed, the reverence that is due to the law would be highly endangered. But in cases of a doubtful nature, reason and humanity will justify the suspension of a convict's sentence till his criminality shall be more clearly proved. We mean
not

not to insinuate the least reflection against the sheriffs, who acted perfectly consistent with the duties of their office: but we cannot avoid observing, that it was a most unfortunate circumstance for Alexander (because had Brown personally acknowledged the indorsement on the day of trial, an acquittal must have necessarily ensued) that, "in the absence of the Secretary of State, one or more of the Judges had not power to determine whether Brown's affidavit was of sufficient authority to leave the convict's fate in suspense till his guilt or innocence could be more satisfactorily ascertained.



Account of the deplorable Case of WILLIAM TAUNTON, who was hanged at *Tyburn*, for the *Murder* of Mrs. PHIPPS, of *Colnbrook*; with an Account of the Circumstances that led to the Perpetration of the horrid Crime.

THIS malefactor was a native of Gloucestershire, and brought up as an husbandman, which employment he quitted to live as ostler at an inn at *Tewkesbury*, in which capacity he continued several years, and then came to London.

After this he was engaged in the service of Mrs. Phipps, a widow, who kept the Lamb-inn at *Colnbrook*. Though she was the mother of several children, yet a scandalous intimacy soon ensued between her and Taunton, and they lived together some years as husband and wife; and strangers calling at the inn presumed that he was the landlord, from the airs of authority which he assumed.

Miserable, however, was this connexion in its progress, and fatal to both parties in its event.

Continual quarrels arose between them, and frequent blows were the consequence of their reiterated disputes; and this way of life, as might be reasonably imagined, greatly injured the character of Mrs. Phipps, and occasioned the loss of great part of her business.

After a residence of some time, their situation becoming unhappy, Taunton went down to his friends in Gloucestershire, with an intention, as it was thought, to have remained there: but he had not been long in the country, when he received a letter from Mrs. Phipps, earnestly inviting his return, alledging, as a reason for it, that she was unhappy without his company.

The ill-fated man was weak enough to return on this invitation; but the connexion had not been long renewed, before their quarrels became as frequent as before; and proceeded even to a greater degree of violence, till the neighbours were alarmed at their inconsistent conduct; and what began in illicit love ended in murder.

After repeated disagreements, they sat down to supper one evening in apparent reconciliation; when Mrs. Phipps asked Mr. Taunton if she should pare him a cucumber, or would he eat it with the rind on. These words were scarcely pronounced, when Taunton seized the kitchen poker, and told her to lay hold of one end of it. She wondered at this command, and asked him why it must be complied with. He still insisted on her taking hold of one end of it: on which she said, "If I must have it, let me have the clean end; but what am I to do with it? — His answer was, "You must knock out my brains." She replied, "No, Taunton, I will not hurt a hair of your head." To this he said, "If you will not knock my brains out, I will knock
" your

"your brains out:" and no sooner had he uttered this horrid expression, than he struck her on the head with such force as almost to lay her skull bare; after which he gave her a blow on the face, which cut her in the most terrible manner.

A surgeon being sent for, dressed her wounds, and applying himself to Taunton, told him, that, if he had murdered her, he would certainly have been hanged. The offender acknowledged that he knew that must have been the consequence; but desired the surgeon to take all proper care of the wounded woman.

The injury took place on the 30th of July, and the surgeon attended the wounded woman for five days; at the end of which time she said to her daughter, "Peggy, you may go out of the room, for I want to sleep." During the absence of the daughter, Taunton entered the room, and struck Mrs. Phipps so forcibly on the neck with a hatchet, that her head hung over one side of the bed.

The horrid murder being at length committed, Taunton threw down the instrument of death, and went to drink at a public house, about a mile distance; and the surgeon coming soon after to attend his duty, and finding Mrs. Phipps dead, dispatched the ostler and another man in search of the murderer. It was not long before they found him, and bringing him back to Colnbrook, the surgeon hinted to him, that the most fatal consequences would probably ensue from the crime of which he had been guilty.

The Coroner's Jury, being summoned on the occasion, gave a verdict that Taunton had been guilty of the wilful murder of Mrs. Phipps; on which he

was

was taken before a magistrate, who committed him to New Prison.

In this place he was visited by many persons, who conversed with him on his unhappy situation: and one of them hinting his fears that he was guilty, Taunton acknowledged that he was, and expressed his sorrow for the crime; but said it was now too late to remedy the evil.

His friend then enquired what could induce him to commit such an atrocious crime; to which he answered, that she had traduced his character, by telling lies of him in the neighbourhood.

Being brought to trial at the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, he produced several persons who deposed, that he had been, at times, so much out of his mind, that he was not master of his own conduct: and one of these in particular swore, that he had at one time attempted to destroy himself by drowning, and at another by hanging; but this plea being thought unsatisfactory by the jury, he was capitally convicted, and sentenced to die.

After conviction he gave the fullest proof of being in possession of his intellectual faculties; exercising himself in the offices of devotion, and receiving the sacrament from the hands of the ordinary of Newgate.

He was tried on Saturday the 9th of September, 1769, and ordered for execution on the Monday following. A most extraordinary shower of rain falling that morning, he was taken from Newgate in a hackney coach, the ordinary attending him, and the executioner riding behind; and in this manner he was conveyed to the place of death.

On his arrival at the fatal tree, a person who had formerly known him went into the cart, and assisted him in his devotion. After the body had hung

hung the usual time it was cut down, and
to Surgeons'-hall for dissection. carried

This malefactor suffered at Tyburn on the 11th
of September, 1769.

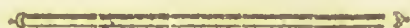
The crime of this unhappy man seems to have
had its rise in the wish to gratify an inordinate pas-
sion. He lived in illicit commerce with a woman
to whom he was not married. Persons who in-
dulge themselves in liberties of this nature ought
not to expect happiness.—The divine service says,
“those whom God hath joined together, let no
“man put asunder;” while common sense and
sound policy seem to reply, “those whom God
“hath *not* joined together should never think of
“an union.”

It is very seldom that we hear of unmarried per-
sons living together as man and wife with any to-
lerable degree of happiness; and how, indeed, is
it to be expected they should?—Those, who have
mutual reason to reproach each other with their
crimes, will hardly fail to avail themselves of every
opportunity of doing so: for the guilty mind con-
ceives that it lifts a load from its own breast, when
it seeks to criminate another.

From the whole of this narrative we ought to
learn, that there is no happiness in this life equal
to that which is to be found in the married state.
Trifling difficulties may occur; trifling differences
may arise between the married pair; but their
mutual interest, and their mutual love, will soon re-
concile all differences, and overcome all difficulties.
The vow which has been made at the altar will
perpetually recur to the honest mind:—the man
will consider himself as obliged to the woman who
once honoured him with her hand; nor will the

woman deem herself less obliged to the man who undertook to be her guardian and protector for life.

From this state of the matter, which we hope is not exaggerated, we may venture to pronounce that there is a fairer chance for more happiness in one year of the married state, than in a whole life of illicit connexion.



A particular Account of the Trial of Mr. BARETTI, an Italian, who was indicted for the wilful *Murder* of EVAN MORGAN, and acquitted; together with the *Defence* which he made in Court.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in November, 1769, Mr. Baretti was brought to his trial, for the murder of Evan Morgan, on the 6th of October preceding; when the substance of the evidence against him was to the following effect.

Elizabeth Ward deposed, that, between nine and ten at night on the 6th of October, she heard a woman whom she had never seen before, ask the prisoner to give her a glass of wine, and at the same time take hold of him in a manner inconsistent with decency:—that the prisoner proceeded forward, but, soon turning back, doubled his fist, and struck this deponent a violent blow on the face:—that, on her screaming out, three men came up, and demanded “how he could strike a woman,” and, shoving him once or twice, pushed him off the pavement. At this time, she said, Baretti drew a knife,

knife, while the men followed him, calling out "Murder! he has a knife out!" and this deponent believed that the deceased was stabbed at this juncture.

The deposition of Thomas Patman was to the following effect. That he had been in company with a Mr. Clark, and the deceased, on the night above-mentioned; that he saw Mr. Baretti strike a woman, whom he did not know, on the head, and, on her screaming out, Morgan and Clark pushed Patman, though not with much violence, against Baretti, who gave him a blow on the left side, in consequence of which the blood ran down into his shoe; that he then called out he was stabbed; that Baretti retreated; that Morgan followed him about half way up Panton-street, where Morgan received a wound from the prisoner in Patman's presence, in consequence of which he fell to the ground.

The testimony of John Clark confirmed, in several particulars, that of the preceding evidence; but, on his being cross-examined, he acknowledged that Patman did not know he was stabbed till Mr. Baretti ran into Panton-street. He likewise owned, that himself had sworn before the coroner, "that Morgan collared Baretti before he knew Patman was wounded; and that one of the women said the prisoner ought to have a knock over the head with her patten."

The evidence of Mr. Lambert, a tallowchandler in Panton-street, was to the following effect. He said, that Mr. Baretti ran into a grocer's shop, opposite his house; that Patman was standing at the door, with the blood running down his shirt, and said that a gentleman in the shop had stabbed him. Mr. Baretti had at that time a knife in one

hand, and a silver case over the blade, which was bloody. Mr. Lambert, who at that time was in the office of constable, called to Baretto to surrender, and, immediately running towards him, seized him, and took him into custody, in order to convey him before a magistrate.

Morgan having been carried to the Middlesex-hospital, one of the patients, who had been there at the time, declared, that he had heard the deceased say, that he saw a gentleman assault two women; on which, without intending to give offence, he went to assist them; when Baretto stabbed him in two places, and that he then turned round, and stabbed him a third time; and that the third wound hurt him more than the two former.

The testimony of Mr. Wyatt, the surgeon who attended Morgan, imported, that the deceased had received three wounds, one of which, being in the belly, was the immediate occasion of his death. He farther said, that, while he was dressing Patman, Clark being present, and enquiring into what gave rise to the misfortune, Clark said, that they saw a gentleman abusing a lady who was acquainted with Morgan; that Morgan pushed Clark against Patman, and that Clark pushed him against the prisoner; that he was not struck by either of them, but he believed the woman damned him for a French bougre, and said he ought to have his head cloven with a patten.

A short time after this, Mr. Wyatt demanded of Clark whether the woman was of his acquaintance; and he replied in the negative, and then denied that she was even acquainted with Morgan; though, not more than two minutes before, he had confessed that she was.

This

This being the substance of the evidence on the trial, Mr. Baretti read the following defence, which will probably be deemed to give more insight into the real state of the case, than all that has preceded it.

“ On Friday the 6th I spent the whole day at home, correcting my Italian and English dictionary, which is actually reprinting and working off; and upon another book in four volumes, which is to be published in February next, and has been advertised in the news-papers. I went a little after four to the club of Royal academicians in Soho, where I stopped about half an hour, waiting for my friends, and warming myself in the club-room.

“ Upon nobody’s coming, I went to the Orange coffee-house, to see if a letter was come for me, (for my letters come there) but there was none. I went back to go to the club, and going hastily up the Haymarket, there was a woman at a door: they say there were two, but I took notice of but one, as I hope God will save me; there might have been two, though I only saw one; that is a fact. There was a woman eight or ten yards from the corner of Panton-street, and she clapped her hands with such violence about my private parts, that it gave me great pain. This I instantly repented, by giving her a blow on the hand, with a few angry words. The woman got up directly, raised her voice, and finding by my pronunciation I was a foreigner, she called me several bad names, in a most contumelious strain; among which, French bougre, d—d Frenchman, and a woman-hater, were the most audible.

“ I had not quite turned the corner, before a man made me turn back, by giving me a blow with his fist, and asking me how I dare strike a

woman ; another pushed him against me, and pushed me off the pavement : then three or four more joined them. I wonder I did not fall from the high step which is there. The path-way is much raised from the coach-way. A great number of people surrounded me presently, many beating me, and all d—ning me on every side, in a most frightful manner. I was a Frenchman in their opinion, which made me apprehensive I must expect no favour nor protection, but all outrage and blows.

“ There is generally a great puddle in the corner of Panton-street, even when the weather is fine ; but that day it had rained incessantly, which made it very slippery. I could plainly perceive my assailants wanted to throw me into the puddle, where I might be trampled on ; so I cried out, murder ! There was a space in the circle, from whence I ran into Panton-street, and endeavoured to get into the foot-way. I was in the greatest horror, lest I should run against some stones, as I have such bad eyes. I could not run so fast as my pursuers, so that they were upon me, continually beating and pushing me, some of them attempting to catch me by the hair-tail : if this had happened, I had been certainly a lost man. I cannot absolutely fix the time and place where I first struck. I remember, somewhere in Panton-street, I gave a quick blow to one who beat off my hat with his fist.

“ When I was in Oxendon-street, fifteen or sixteen yards from the Haymarket, I stopped and faced about. My confusion was great, and seeing a shop open, I ran into it for protection, quite spent with fatigue. I am certainly sorry for the man ; but he owed his death to his own daring
impe-

impetuosity. Three men came into the shop, one of them cried to me to surrender myself to him, who was a constable. I asked them, if they were honest men, and friends ; they said, yes. I put up my knife, desired them to arrest me ; begged they would send for a coach, and take me to Sir John Fielding.

“ I appeal to them how I behaved when I surrendered, and how thankful I was for their kind protection. Sir John heard what I and the men had to say. They sent me into a room below, from whence I dispatched a man to the club in Gerrard-street, when Sir Joshua Reynolds and other gentlemen came to me.

“ A messenger was dispatched to the Middlesex hospital, where they said Morgan was carried. A surgeon came, and took his oath that Morgan was in danger. Sir John committed me to Tothill-fields bridewell. Two gentlemen, as well as the constable, can witness to my behaviour when the coachman lost his way, which forced us to alight in the mire and darkness, in order to find the way to Tothill-fields bridewell. I humbly conceive this will shew I had no intention of escaping. That woeful night I passed without rest.

“ My face had been observed to be hurt, while I was at Sir John Fielding's ; and the constable was the first who took notice of a blow I had received on my chin. But when the heat and fear had subsided, I found a great pain in divers parts of my body. Mr. Molini and Mr. Low, being with me, desired me to let them see what was the matter with my back, which I complained of. I stripped, and they saw several bruises.

“ This, my lord and gentlemen of the jury, is the best account I can give of my unfortunate accident :

cident: for what is done in two or three minutes, in fear and terror, is not to be minutely described; and the court and the jury are to judge. I hope your lordship, and every person present, will think that a man of my age, character, and way of life, would not spontaneously quit my pen, to engage in an outrageous tumult. I hope it will easily be conceived, that a man almost blind could not but be seized with terror on such a sudden attack as this. I hope it will be seen that my knife was neither a weapon of offence or defence; I wear it to carve fruit and sweetmeats, and not to kill my fellow-creatures.

“ It is a general custom in France not to put knives upon the table, so that even ladies wear them in their pockets for general use. I have continued to wear it after my return, because I have found it occasionally convenient. Little did I think such an event would ever have happened. Let this trial turn out as favourable as my innocence may deserve, still my regret will endure as long as life shall last.

“ A man who has lived full fifty years, and spent most of that time in a studious manner, I hope, will not be supposed to have voluntarily engaged in so desperate an affair. I beg leave, my lord and gentlemen, to add one thing more. Equally confident of my own innocence, and English discernment to trace out truth, I did resolve to wave the privilege granted to foreigners by the laws of this kingdom: nor was my motive a compliment to this nation; my motive was my life and honour, that it should not be thought I received undeserved favour from a jury part of my own country. I chose to be tried by a jury of this country; for, if my honour is not saved, I cannot much wish
for

for the preservation of my life. I will wait for the determination of this awful court with that confidence, I hope, which innocence has a right to obtain. So God bless you all."

Several gentlemen now appeared in behalf of Mr. Baretti ; among whom, Mr. Lambert proved that he had received a blow, that his hat was lost, and that his face was swelled.

Mr. Molini swore that, on the day after the affray, he had observed a swelling on Mr. Baretti's cheek, and several bruises on his back and shoulder; and Mr. Low deposed, that, when he visited Mr. Baretti in prison, he had seen six or seven bruises on different parts of his body.

Justice Kelynge, major Alderton, and Mr. Petrin, deposed, that some abandoned women, attended by bullies, had severally attacked them in an indelicate way in the Haymarket.

To the character of Mr. Baretti appeared Sir Joshua Reynolds, doctor Johnson, Mr. Fitzherbert, and Edmund Burke, esquire, all of whom represented him as a man of benevolence, sobriety, modesty, and learning. The honourable Mr. Beauclerk, Mr. Garrick, and Mr. Molini, all confirmed this testimony, adding, that persons who travel in foreign countries are accustomed to carry such knives as that which had been unhappily made use of by the prisoner.

After considering the whole matter, the jury acquitted Mr. Baretti of murder and man-slaughter, and gave a verdict of " Self-defence."

This case of Mr. Baretti may be deemed one of the extraordinary kind. It seems evident, from the depositions made on his trial, and from the substance of his defence, that he had been assaulted by people of abandoned character; but the ques-
tion

tion is, whether he had a right to defend himself with such a weapon as he made use of: however, we shall not presume to decide on this question, as the jury solemnly determined that he *had*, by the verdict they gave.

Mr. Baretto's character was of the utmost service to him on this solemn occasion. His learning, his connexions, his disposition, were all of the highest importance to him; and though the alleged crime was no less than murder, we well remember that he was bailed by four gentlemen of distinguished character; so that he did not lay in Newgate even a single hour.

His generous refusal to accept of the usual favour of being tried by a jury composed of an equal number of foreigners with Englishmen, furnishes an admirable proof of his disdain of taking any advantage; nor is it a small presumptive proof of his innocence; and his declaration, that his regret would endure as long as life should last, though the trial should turn out as favourably as innocence might deserve, is greatly in favour of his humanity: and indeed no man of liberal feelings can have been even the accidental occasion of the death of a fellow-creature, without sincerely lamenting the misfortune.

The people of this country may wonder that Mr. Baretto, an Italian by birth, should make his defence in such correct English: but it is to be remembered, that he had lived long among us, had studied our language with critical attention, and wrote it with a degree of purity scarce ever equalled by a foreigner; to whom the English language, of all others, is said to be the most difficult of acquisition.

Upon the whole, this inference should be drawn from the present case:—those who would consult

their own safety, should avoid giving offence to others in the streets. The casual passenger has, at least, a right to pass unmolested; and he or she that may insult him cannot deserve pity, whatever consequences may follow.

Foreign gentlemen, however, should consider, that the best method of escaping the fury of a mob is to take shelter in the first house they may see open: there are few people who could be so hard of heart as not to afford them protection; and we must think, for the honour of our country, that the generality would protect them against their assailants.

The number of abandoned women, who infest the streets of the metropolis every evening, are in some measure to be pitied; but when they add insult to indecent application, they ought to be punished with the utmost severity. But what must those men think of themselves, whose seductive arts have reduced women to a state so deplorable? If they have any sensibility left, horror and remorse must seize their minds: yet, however great their sufferings, they are not deserving of pity.—Violators of all the laws of honour, they have no claim to our compassion!



A full Relation of the singular and affecting Case of MUNGO CAMPBELL, who was convicted of the *Murder* of Lord EGLINGTON, by shooting him.

THIS unfortunate man was a descendant of the noble family of Argyle, and born at Ayr in Scotland, in the year 1712. His father, who was a merchant of eminence, had been mayor of

the town, and a justice of peace; but having no less than twenty-four children, and meeting with many losses in his commercial connexions, it was impossible for him to make any adequate provision for his family; so that, on his death, the relations took care of the children, and educated them in the liberal manner which is customary in Scotland.

The unhappy subject of this narrative was protected by an uncle, who gave him a learned education; but this generous friend dying when the youth was about eighteen years of age, left him sixty pounds, and earnestly recommended him to the care of his other relations.

The young man was a finished scholar; yet seemed averse to the making choice of any of the learned professions. His attachment appeared to be to the military life, in which line many of his ancestors had most gloriously distinguished themselves.

Mungo now entered himself as a cadet in the royal regiment of Scotch Greys, then commanded by his relation general Campbell, and served during two campaigns at his own expence, in the fond hope of military preferment.

After the battle of Dettingen, at which he assisted, he had an opportunity of being appointed quarter-master, if he could have raised one hundred pounds; but this place was bestowed on another person, while Campbell was making fruitless application for the money.

Thus disappointed of what he thought a reasonable expectation, he quitted the army, and went into Scotland, where he arrived at the juncture that the rebels had quitted Edinburgh, in 1745. Lord Loudon having then the command of the loyal highlanders, who exerted so much
bravery

bravery in the suppression of the rebellion; and Mr. Campbell having the honour to be related to his lordship, he went and fought under him with a bravery that did equal credit to his loyalty and courage.

Not long after the decisive battle of Culloden, lord Loudon procured his kinsman to be appointed an officer of the excise; and prevailed on the commissioners to station him in the shire of Ayr, that he might have the happiness of residing near his friends and relations.

In the discharge of this new duty Mr. Campbell behaved with strict integrity to the crown, yet with so much civility as to conciliate the affections of all those with whom he had any transactions. He married when he was somewhat advanced in life; and so unexceptionable was his whole conduct, that all the nobility and gentry in the neighbourhood (the earl of Eglington excepted) gave him permission to kill game on their estates. However, he was very moderate in the use of this indulgence, seldom shooting but with a view to gratify a friend with a present; hardly ever for his own emolument.

Mr. Campbell had a singular attachment to fishing; and a river in lord Eglington's estate affording the finest fish in that country, he would willingly have angled there; but his lordship being as strict with regard to his fish as the game, Campbell, unwilling to offend him, gave away his fishing-tackle, which was excellent in its kind. He was likewise in possession of a fine pointer, which he sold; but would not part with his gun, which produced him the greatest pleasure of his life.

Campbell being in search of smugglers, and having his gun with him, was crossing part of

lord Eglington's estate, when a hare starting up, he shot her. His lordship hearing the report of the gun, and being informed that Campbell had fired it, he sent a servant to command him to come to the seat.

Campbell obeyed the disagreeable summons, but was treated very cavalierly by his lordship, who even descended to call him by names of contempt. The other apologized for his conduct, which he said arose from the sudden starting of the hare *; and declared that he had no design of giving offence.

A man named Bartleymore was among the servants of lord Eglington, and was a favourite of his lordship; and this man dealt largely in contraband goods. Mr. Campbell, passing along the sea-shore, met Bartleymore with a cart containing eighty gallons of rum, which he seized as contraband; and the rum was condemned, but the cart was restored, as being the property of lord Eglington.

In this affair it will appear evident that Mr. Campbell did not exceed his duty: but Bartleymore was so incensed against him, that he contrived many tales to his disadvantage, and at length engaged his lordship's passions so far, that he conceived a more unfavourable opinion of Campbell than he had hitherto done. In the mean time, the latter had no consciousness of having given offence by the seizure of the rum, which was made only in discharge of his duty; and therefore he was wholly regardless of the common report of lord Eglington's enmity to him.

* This, surely, was a temptation that no man fond of a gun could have resisted; and Mr. Campbell seems, in our opinion, to have gone too far in the submission he made.

About ten in the morning of the 24th of October, 1769, Campbell took his gun, and went out with another officer, with a view to detect smugglers. Mr. Campbell took with him a licence for shooting, which had been given him by Dr. Hunter; though they had no particular design of killing any game, but intended to shoot a woodcock if they should see one.

They crossed a small part of lord Eglington's estate, in order to reach the sea-shore, where they intended to walk. When they arrived at this spot it was near noon, and lord Eglington came up in his coach, attended by Mr. Wilson, a carpenter, who was working for him, and followed by four servants on horseback. On approaching the coast his lordship met Bartleymore, who told him that there were some poachers at a distance. Mr. Wilson would have endeavoured to draw off his lordship's notice from such a business; but Bartleymore saying that Campbell was among the poachers, lord Eglington quitted his coach, and mounting a led horse, rode to the spot, where he saw Campbell and the other officer, whose name was Brown. His lordship said, "Mr. Campbell, I did not expect to have found you so soon again on my grounds, after your promise when you shot the hare." He then demanded Campbell's gun, which the latter declared he would not part with.

Lord Eglington now rode towards him; while Campbell retreated, with his gun presented, desiring him to keep at a distance. Still, however, his lordship advanced, smiling, and said, "Are you going to shoot me?" Campbell replied, "I will, if you do not keep off." Hereupon lord Eglington called to his servants to bring him a gun, which one of them took from the coach, and delivered to another to carry to their master.

In the interim lord Eglington, leading his horse, approached Mr. Campbell, whose gun he demanded; but the latter would not deliver it. The peer then quitted his horse's bridle, and continued advancing, while Campbell still retired, though in an irregular direction, and pointed his gun towards his pursuer.

At length lord Eglington came so near him that Campbell said, "I beg your pardon, my lord, but "I will not deliver my gun to any man living; "therefore keep off, or I will certainly shoot you." At this instant Bartleymore advancing, begged Campbell to deliver his gun to lord Eglington; but the latter answered, he would not, for "he had a right to carry a gun."

His lordship did not dispute his *general* right, but said that he could not have *any* to carry it on his estate, without his permission. Campbell again begged pardon, and still continued retreating, but with his gun in his hand, and preparing to fire in his own defence. While he was thus walking backwards his heel struck against a stone, and he fell when he was about the distance of three yards from the pursuer. Lord Eglington, observing him fall on his back, stepped forward, as if he would have passed by Campbell's feet, which the latter observing, reared himself on his elbow, and lodged the contents of his piece in the left side of his lordship's body.

At this critical juncture, the servant above-mentioned brought the gun from the coach, and Campbell would have wrested it from his hands, but that Bartleymore came up just at the very moment; and at this moment lord Eglington, putting his hand to his wound, said, "I am "killed."

A contest now ensued, during which Bartley-
more repeatedly struck Campbell; which being
observed by lord Eglington, he called out, "Do
not use him ill." Campbell being secured, was
conducted to the wounded man, then laying on
the ground, who said, "Mr. Campbell, I would
not have shot you;" but Campbell made no
answer.

Lord Eglington's seat was about three miles from
the place where this fatal accident happened; and
his servants put him into the carriage to convey
him home. In the mean time Campbell's hands
were tied behind him; and he was conducted to
the town of Saltcotes, the place of his former
station as an exciseman.

The persons who conducted him asked him se-
veral questions; the answers to which were after-
wards, very ungenerously as we conceive, adduced
on his trial, as collateral evidence of his guilt.
Among other things, he acknowledged that he
would rather part with his life than his gun; and
that, sooner than have it taken from him, he would
shoot any peer of the realm.

Lord Eglington dying, after languishing ten
hours, Mr. Campbell was, on the following day,
committed to the prison of Ayr, and the next
month removed to Edinburgh, in preparation for
his trial before the high court of justiciary; pre-
vious to which his case was discussed by council,
and the following arguments were adduced in his
favour. It was said, in the first place,

"That the gun went off by accident, and
therefore it could be no more than casual
homicide."

"Secondly, That supposing it had been fired
with an intention to kill, yet the act was alto-

“altogether justifiable, because of the violent
 “provocation he had received ; and he was
 “doing no more than defending his life and
 “property.”

“Thirdly, It could not be murder, because it
 “could not be supposed that Mr. Campbell
 “had any malice against his lordship, and
 “the action itself was too sudden to admit
 “of deliberation.”

The council for the prosecution urged in answer, in the first place,

“That it was certain malice was implied, in
 “consequence of Campbell’s presenting the
 “gun to his lordship, and telling him that,
 “unless he kept off, he would shoot him.”

“Secondly, That there was no provocation
 “given by the earl besides words, and
 “words shall not be construed a provocation in law.”

“Thirdly, The earl had a right to seize his
 “gun, in virtue of several acts of parliament, which are the established laws of
 “the land, to which every subject is obliged
 “to be obedient.”

After repeated debates between the lawyers of Scotland, a day was at length appointed for the trial, which commenced on the 27th of February, 1770, before the high court of justiciary ; and the jury having found Mr. Campbell guilty, he was sentenced to die.

The Lord Justice Clerk, before he pronounced the solemn sentence, addressed himself to the convict, advising him to make the most devout preparation for death, as all hopes of pardon would be precluded, from the nature of his offence.

Through

Through the whole course of the trial, the prisoner's behaviour was remarkable for calmness and serenity; and when it was ended he bowed to the court with the utmost composure, but said not a single word in extenuation of his crime.

On his return to the prison, he was visited by several of his friends, among whom he behaved with apparently decent cheerfulness. Their subjects of conversation were of a serious kind, principally respecting the immortality of the soul, and a future state of existence.

After they had drank several bottles of wine, his friends left him, and he retired to his apartment, begging the favour of a visit from them on the following day: but in the morning he was found dead, hanging to the end of a form which he had set upright, and fastened a silk handkerchief round his neck. From circumstances it was supposed that he had committed this act of suicide soon after his friends left him.

This unfortunate man hanged himself at Edinburgh on the 28th of February, 1770.

We have not, perhaps, in the whole of this work, a more melancholy narrative than that before us: we have had former occasions to speak of the unreasonableness and severity of the game-laws; and we have remarked on the tyranny of their nature.

In the present instance it is evident that Lord Eglington's pride, and unwarrantable assumption, cost him his life, and eventually terminated in the death of another. Nothing, surely, ever disgraced a nation more than this unhappy country has been disgraced by the enacting of the game-laws. Animals that are wild by nature are, and must be, equally the property of every man who can possess

himself of them ; and, if any distinction were to be made, it ought, surely, to be in favour of the poor, who, having small ability to purchase what is sold in the markets, ought not to be denied the casual chance of the field.

It is said, that a poor man, who gets a habit of poaching, is seldom industrious in any other way. There may be some truth in this observation. But who made poachers? Certainly those who enacted the laws against poaching. If a poor man had full liberty to kill a hare or a bird wherever he saw it, he would not skulk about at night, to rob the fields of the man whom he deems a tyrant for the very act that he thinks necessitates him to commit that robbery.

The present case, however, is out of the question. Mr. Campbell was qualified to carry a gun at the time he was interrupted, he was in the regular discharge of his duty, and Lord Eglington could have no honest right to interrupt him. Pity is it that the affair ended in so fatal a manner as it did ; a manner equally fatal to both parties ; since, while two lives were unhappily lost, the relations of either party must have been rendered wretched.

All those who read this story may not, perhaps, coincide with us in all our sentiments ; but every one must join to lament, that so much presumption on one side, and such a determined resolution on the other, should end in murder and suicide !

Let a proper inference be drawn from this melancholy case. Let pride be restrained ; and let humility and universal benevolence assume its place !

Account of the unexampled Cases of WILLIAM SPIGGOT, WILLIAM MORRIS, DAVID MORGAN, WALTER EVANS, CHARLES MORGAN, and DAVID LLEWELLIN, who were executed for the *Murder* of WILLIAM POWELL, Esquire.

MR. Powell was a man of fortune, resident at Glenareth in Caermarthenshire, where his ancestors had, for some hundred years, possessed a family estate, which at length descended to him of course. He was wedded to a young lady of a handsome fortune, and two children were the issue of the marriage: but Mr. Powell did not preserve so strict a fidelity to the marriage-bed as became his character, indulging himself in too free an intercourse with other women.

It happened that while his wife was pregnant, he made an illicit connexion with two of his servant-maids, one of whom proving with child, he kept her at his own house to lay-in; and it is said that he afterwards treated her with so much cruelty as to occasion her death: but this circumstance never having been proved, it is only mentioned as the current report of the neighbourhood; and we would lay no stress on reports which may partly have their foundation in malice.

Be this as it may, Mrs. Powell was so much disgusted by the irregular proceedings of her husband, and the contemptuous manner in which he treated her, that she quitted his house, and went to reside with her relations. Still feeling, however, all the anxiety of a mother for her children, and unwilling that they should remain with a father who had given repeated proofs of his indifference to those who ought to have been most dear to him, she dis-

closed her sentiments to a young gentleman, named Williams, begging that he would put her in the most proper mode of getting her children out of the hands of their father.

A degree of vanity now inspired Williams with the idea that Mrs. Powell was enamoured of him: he therefore made no scruple to promise all the assistance in his power to complete the favourite wish of her heart; and he had address enough to get the children from the father, and convey them to the mother.

Soon after the children were brought home, Mrs. Powell began to conceive, that it would be impossible for her to detain them, if her husband should insist on their being delivered up: wherefore she sent them to a boarding-school in the neighbourhood of London, in pursuance of Mr. Williams's advice.

The father, however, obtained information of the place to which the children were sent; and being conscious that the expence of their board and education might be demanded of him, he determined that they should not remain in their present situation: wherefore, repairing to the boarding-school, he claimed that the children should be delivered to him; but the master of the school, saying that they had been placed there by Mr. Williams, refused to deliver them till he had seen that gentleman.

Hereupon Mr. Powell made application to the court of King's-bench for a writ of Habeas Corpus, which having been granted, it was served on the master of the boarding-school, who no longer hesitated to deliver the children, who were taken home by the father. The court likewise granted a rule against Williams, "to shew cause why he
" had

“ had taken the children away without the authority of the father.”

Williams paid no attention to this business, not even employing a council on the occasion ; so that after a year had elapsed, the court directed that the rule should be made absolute, and Williams served with a writ of attachment for the contempt.

This writ was directed to the High Sheriff of Caermarthenshire, who ordered one of his officers to take Williams into custody : but he secreted himself, and then formed the shocking resolution of murdering Mr. Powell, in revenge for the steps he had taken respecting the children. He absconded for a while, and the idea that he was obliged to do so served to mortify his pride, and stimulate his revenge ; and he engaged twelve poor men, to whom he promised each a guinea, to assist him in the execution of his horrid purpose.

The plan being settled, they met together on a Sunday evening, in the month of January, 1770, and having put on frocks, and blacked their faces, they went to the house of Mr. Powell at Glenareth.

All the parties remained at the door to keep guard, except Williams, Spiggot, and David Morgan. These knocked at the door, and a servant opening it, they rushed in, to perpetrate their more than diabolical plan.

Some friends had been spending the evening with Mr. Powell, who had parted from them at the door but a few minutes before the arrival of the murderers ; but when they came he was sitting in his parlour, into which they made a forcible entry, and, attacking him on the sudden, cut his nose from his face, almost cut off one of his hands, and then stabbed him in the belly in nine places, so that his

his bowels hung out of his body, and they left him expiring.

The inhuman murder being thus perpetrated, they quitted the house, and all the parties set off together towards the place of Williams's residence. As soon as day appeared, the report of the murder spread through the country; and as a deep snow had fallen just before the perpetration of the deed, it afforded a providential means of discovering the murderers; for several people observed that the tracks of the feet of men were visible in the snow.

The advice of two magistrates being taken on the occasion, they procured a number of constables, and with them traced the footsteps to the house of Charles Morgan, which was at the distance of five miles; but they could not discern the track any farther, which gave rise to a suspicion that he had been concerned in the murder.

Hereupon the magistrates ordered that Morgan should be apprehended: and they immediately interrogated him very strictly respecting the shocking transaction. For some time nothing could be learnt from him, for he steadily denied having any knowledge of the affair. At length one of his shoes was taken off, and a constable measuring with it the marks of one of the feet in the snow, it was found that the shoe not only fitted the size of the impression, but that the number of nails in the shoe were equal to the marks of nails in the snow.

This giving rise to a very strong conjecture that he was concerned in the murder, it was hinted to him, that he must have been one of the parties; when, unable longer to deny the fact, he confessed it, and likewise informed the magistrates what road his associates had taken.

Charles Morgan being committed to prison, all the other parties set out in pursuit of the absconded murderers,

murderers, five more of whom were apprehended on the same day, and committed to the gaol of Caermarthen: and on the following day two more of them were taken, and lodged in the county-prison for Brecknockshire.

In the mean time Williams, the great instigator and promoter of all the mischief, made his escape to Milford Haven, whence he embarked on board a vessel bound to Ireland, and thence it was reported that he got over to France; nor have we learnt that he has been heard of since.

For the better understanding of this particular case, it will now be necessary to copy, almost verbatim, a part of the narrative from which this account is extracted.—“ In the reign of Henry the Eighth the Welch had such an aversion to the English government, that when juries were impannelled to try criminals, they generally acquitted them, not because they imagined them innocent, but because the judges who tried them were Englishmen. In order therefore to promote the ends of public justice, and bring criminals to condign punishment, an act passed both houses of parliament, empowering the court of King’s-bench to remove by writ of Habeas Corpus every prisoner in the different gaols of Wales, and bring them to the next English county to be tried.”

In the instance before us, with a view to bring the murderers of Mr. Powell to justice, two writs of Habeas Corpus were issued by the Court of King’s-bench, directed, the one to the sheriff of Brecknockshire, the other to the sheriff of Caermarthenshire, requiring them to commit the prisoners to the custody of the sheriff of Hereford-

Herefordshire, to be by him kept in safe custody till they should be delivered in due course of law.

The late Sir Joseph Yates presided at the ensuing assizes for the county of Hereford, when the prisoners, whose names are given at the head of this narrative, were put on their trials; and the fullest proofs arising of their guilt, they were capitally convicted; but sentence of death was not passed upon them till the arguments of council had been heard in their defence.

Serjeant Jephson, having been engaged to plead in behalf of the prisoners, insisted that judgment could not be given on the verdict, for which he urged the reasons that will hereafter appear. Mr. Justice Yates, anxious to discharge his duty in so important an affair, begged the attendance of Mr. Baron Perrot, who was then trying causes at the Nisi Prius bar.

Both the Judges being present, serjeant Jephson made use of the following arguments:—"That this
 " prosecution is founded on the statute of the 26th
 " of Henry VIII, which enables the judges of gaol-
 " delivery to cause persons committing offences in
 " Welch counties to be indicted in the next En-
 " glish county:—that the first objection which oc-
 " curs is, that it does not appear in the body of
 " the indictment, that Herefordshire is the next
 " adjoining county to Caermarthenshire:—that
 " as, at common law, the Judges in Herefordshire
 " would have had no jurisdiction in this case, it is
 " an extraordinary jurisdiction; and, to entitle the
 " judges to proceed, every circumstance must
 " appear upon the face of the record, necessary to
 " give that jurisdiction:—that the court could
 " not judicially take notice of Caermarthenshire,
 " it

“ it not being contiguous to Herefordshire ; and
 “ that the want of this allegation in the body of the
 “ indictment is a fatal defect.”

The second plea of the council was, “ that the
 “ statute of the 26th of Henry VIII. extends only
 “ to such of the counties of Wales as were the
 “ Lords-marches ; that the preamble of the act
 “ recites the several outrages that were committed
 “ in the marches ; and that the powers in the act
 “ were given with a design of remedying those
 “ evils ; that Caermarthenshire was not one of the
 “ Lords-marches, and consequently not included
 “ in that act.” The council owned that he had
 seen the cases of Thomas Athoe, the elder, and
 Thomas Athoe, the younger, and confessed that an
 objection similar to his last had been over-ruled,
 in respect to those unhappy men.*

After a full consideration of the matter, the opi-
 nion of the court was that both of the objections
 were ill-founded ; and with regard to the first, in
 particular, it was said, that “ the act empowers the
 “ jury to find the bill in the next English county.
 “ The contiguity of the county is no part of the
 “ charge ; it is only a circumstance, which gives
 “ the jurisdiction ; and though not stated in the
 “ body of the indictment, yet it is set forth upon
 “ the record, when it comes to be made up, and
 “ will there sufficiently appear.”

This was the opinion of the court, and the above
 recited are even the very words of the judge. No

* The Athoes, father and son, were tried, con-
 victed, and executed, for murder. A full account
 of them will be found in the first volume of this
 work, page 341.

further weight being now allowed to the pleadings of the council, Sir Joseph Yates proceeded to pass sentence of death on the convicts; but, as some of them did not understand the English language, he addressed himself more particularly to William Spiggot; and we insert this address at large, as it affords an instance of great feeling in the presiding magistrate, and gives a full proof of his humanity. Besides, it may be useful to peruse and consider the opinion of a Judge on a subject so important and affecting. When judges address prisoners in such awful circumstances, they must do it with reluctance. It is a part, but a very painful part, of their duty, and it ought therefore to have weight with the reader. The following is the address made on this solemn occasion:

“ William Spiggot, you have been tried, and, upon evidence that leaves not the smallest doubt, have now been found guilty of the most wicked, the most savage, the most horrid murder that ever stained the hand of man—a cool, deliberate, concerted assassination!—without a quarrel to provoke, without a passion to incite, without a motive to tempt you, but the blackest that ever disgraced human nature—a willingness to earn the wages of iniquity, the execrable wages of an hireling assassin. And how hardened, how determined, the preparations you made for that bloody work! day after day projecting the design, till at last, deliberately putting on the Russian’s frock, and blackened face, you daringly entered the doors of the deceased; and in his own house murdered him, most inhumanly murdered him, with every circumstance of savage barbarity! yet he had never done the least wrong to you, not the smallest provocation or offence.

“ That

“ That unfortunate man is now in his grave, and in two days you will be as cold and lifeless as he. But how different your departure! By your bloody hand he was wickedly murdered. You for that murder will justly die. It is now my duty to pronounce that dreadful sentence; an office which to me is ever painful. I feel for the melancholy condition you are in, who are so soon to die by the hands of justice; but how little did you feel for the poor man you murdered!

“ Friday next, the day after to-morrow, will in this world be your last: but think of the more dreadful day to come, when you will appear before a far more awful tribunal, before the Great Judge of all mankind. Think how you will stand before him, covered over with the blood of your fellow-creature, whom you so wickedly murdered, most daringly presuming to destroy that life which the Almighty gave, which he alone had a right to take away.

“ You have now but two days to live; and in that short time have much work to do. I therefore most earnestly intreat you to employ every moment that is left you in imploring God’s mercy and forgiveness, that your soul may escape that dreadful punishment which lasts through all eternity. At this bar you must expect no mercy.

“ The sentence of the law will most certainly be executed upon you; and that sentence is, “ That “ you must be taken from hence to the place from “ whence you came, and from thence on Friday “ next to the place of execution; that you be there “ hanged by the necks, till you are dead; and “ that your bodies afterwards be delivered to the “ surgeons, to be dissected. And the Lord have “ mercy on your souls!”

After sentence being thus solemnly pronounced, the convicts were re-conveyed to prison; and on the Friday following were taken to the place of execution, where they suffered the dreadful sentence of the law; after they had fervently petitioned for pardon to that throne of mercy whence alone it could be expected.

These cruel murderers were executed at Hereford on the 30th of March, 1770.

The case of all the parties concerned in this inhuman transaction will well deserve our most serious consideration. What shall we say to the madness of Williams, who could engage twelve men in the commission of a murder? And what can we say of that deplorable poverty, and that shocking depravity of mind, that could induce these men to be concerned in so dreadful a business, on the promise of so trifling a gratification as a guinea? which gratification we learn that they never received; for Williams absconding, they obtained only some bread and cheese, and strong beer enough to elevate their spirits to a proper pitch for the commission of murder. Surely the hearts of all the parties concerned must have been hardened beyond description.

It is true that Williams escaped the immediate justice of the violated laws of God and his country; but no one will say that he escaped, or that he could escape, the tormenting pangs of his own conscience, that severe monitor, that will never let the guilty be at rest.

Perhaps it would have been happier for him, if he had been taken into custody, and convicted with his associates. As it was, he must have borne about him the perpetual pangs of a wounded spirit; and, in the emphatical language of Scripture, "A wounded spirit who can bear?" It is not unreasonable

reasonable to suppose, that, by the wise decree of Providence, this murderer was more effectually punished, by living to feel the tortures of conscience, than he could have been by the most ignominious death.

In Italy it is too common for people of rank and fortune to hire bravoes to assassinate those against whom they have conceived an unreasonable hatred; and it has frequently happened that the immediate murderers, as well as their employers, have escaped detection; but in this happier country, governed by laws in the enacting of which the people themselves have a share, these horrid violations of humanity are scarce ever heard of; and we ought to be thankful to Providence that they are not.

In this story, however, the most remarkable circumstance is, the track of the villains in the snow. Hence we may learn, that those who are weak and wicked enough to think of eluding the all-seeing eye of God, will find themselves mistaken; and that utter confusion, and immediate distress, must be the consequence of premeditated villainy.

Who seeks the eye of God to shun,
Will surely to his ruin run;
But who the will divine obeys,
May hope for pardon when he prays:
On earth he may expect a quiet mind,
And in the realms of bliss eternal bliss to find!



THE
NEW AND COMPLETE
Newgate Calendar
OR,
VILLANY DISPLAYED
IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.

Containing New and Authentic Accounts of all the Lives, Adventures, plights, Trials, Executions, and Last Dying Speeches, Confessions, (as well as Letters to their Relatives never before published) of the most notorious Malefactors and others of both Sexes and all Denominations, who have suffered Death and other exemplary Punishments for

Murders,	Forgeries,	Rapes,	Swindling,
Burglaries,	Highway Robberies	Riots, Mobbing,	High-Treason,
Felonies,	Footpad Robberies,	Sodomy,	Petit-Treason,
Horse-Stealing,	Perjuries,	Starving to Death,	Sedition, and other
Bigamy,	Piracies,	Sheep Stealing,	Misdemeanors.

Interpersed with Notes, Reflections, and Remarks, arising from the several Subjects, Moral, Useful, and Entertaining.

Including the Transactions of the most remarkable Prisoners, tried for High Treason, at the Old Bailey, viz. HARDY, HORNE TOOKE, THELWALL, &c.

Likewise the Trials of WATT, DOWNE, PALMER, FITZGERALD, M. CAROTT, &c. &c. at Edinburgh for High Treason, Sedition, Libels, &c. &c.

Comprehending also, all the most material Passages in the Sessions Papers for a long Series of Years; together with the ORDINARY of NEWGATE'S ACCOUNT of the CAPITAL CONVICTS; and complete NARRATIVES of all most remarkable TRIALS.

Also a great Variety of the most important Lives and Trials never before published in any former work of the Kind.

The Whole containing the most faithful Narratives ever yet published of various Executions, and other exemplary Punishments, which have happened in England, Scotland, and Ireland, from the Year 1700 to the present Time. Properly arranged from the Records of Court.

By **WILLIAM JACKSON, Esq.**
Of the Inner-Temple, Barrister at Law, Assisted by Others.

How dreadful the Fate of the Wretches who fall,
A Victim of Laws they have broke!
Of Vice, the Beginning, is frequently small,
But how fatal at length is the Stroke!
The Contents of these Volumes will amply display
The Steps which Offenders have trod:
Learn hence, then, each Reader, the Laws to obey
Of your Country, your King, and your God.

IN SIX VOLUMES.

V O L. V.

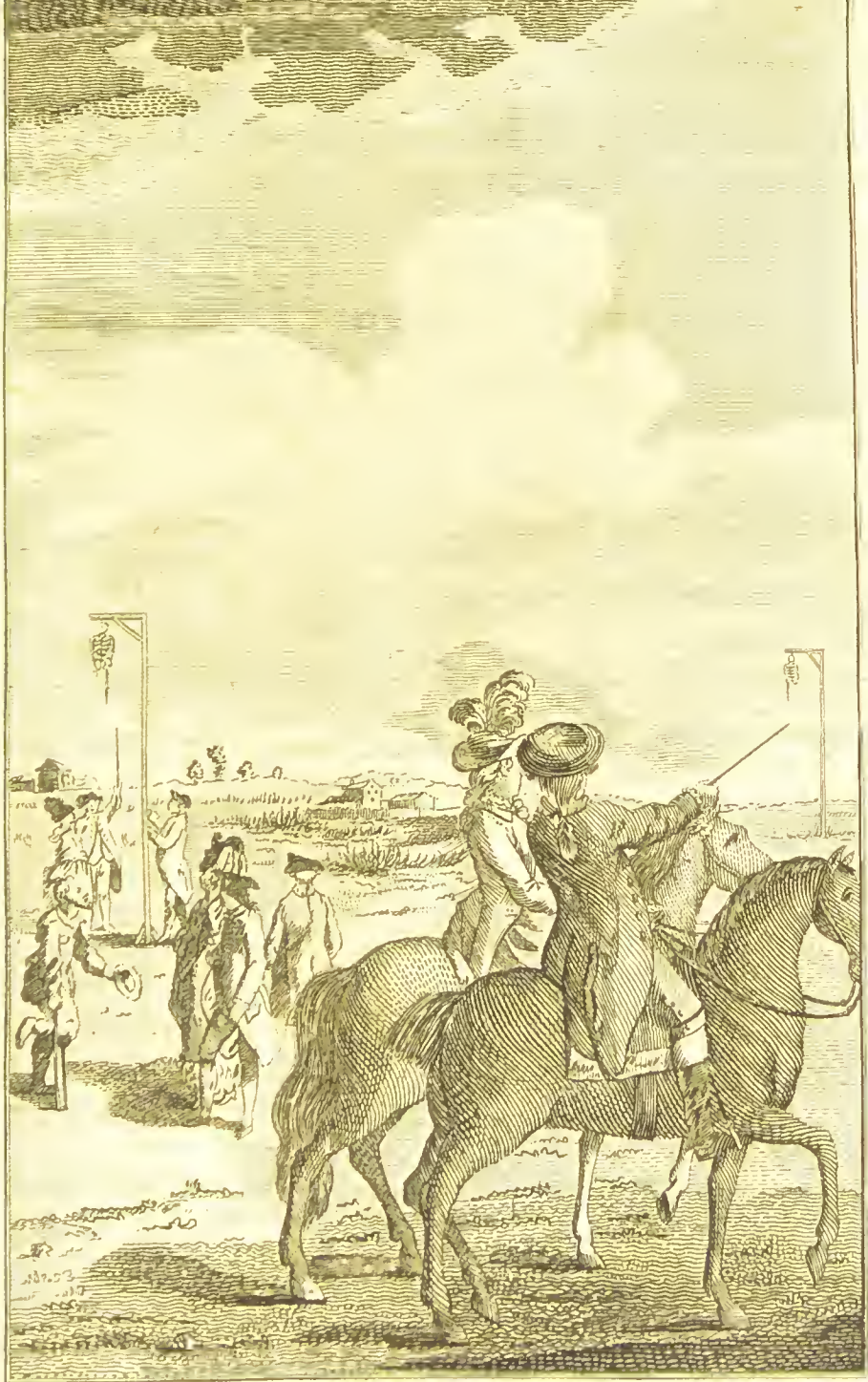
Illustrated with upwards of Sixty Elegant Copper Plates.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR THE PROPRIETORS:

Published by ALEX. HOGG, at No. 36, in Paternoster Row;
And Sold by all Booksellers and Newsmen in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.





Goldsmith del.

Malpas sculp.

*View of HOUNSLOW HEATH, with the GIBBETS
(and Men hanging in Chains)*

THE NEW
NEWGATE CALENDAR;

O R,

MALEFACTOR'S BLOODY REGISTER,

From the Year 1700, to the present Time.

Embellished with curious COPPER-PLATES.

Account of the horrid *Murder* committed by
PETER CONWAY and MICHAEL RICHARDSON, on Mr. VENABLES, a *Butcher*
in *Whitechapel*, and Mr. ROGERS, a *Carpenter*;
with an Account of their *Execution*, and being
hung in *Chains* for the same.

FROM the best accounts we have been able to obtain of these unhappy men, we learn, that an inattention to their education laid the foundation of their ruin. They engaged in the paths of vice early in life, and having forfeited their characters by the irregularity of their conduct, their minds were gradually prepared for the commission of the most horrid of crimes. It was too frequently their practice to spend the greater part of the day in houses of ill fame, where they drank to such a degree as to qualify themselves for scenes of more than brutal enterprize during the night.

VOL. V. No. 41. B

On

On Saturday the 26th of May, 1770, Richardson, Conway, and two men named Jackson and Fox, went to the shop of Mr. Robert Dun, in Princes-square, near Ratcliff-highway, and purchased a pair of pistols. The above mentioned Jackson was afterwards an evidence against his accomplices; but we do not learn that Fox was ever taken into custody.

Having thus purchased the pistols, they left them at the house of an acquaintance, named Thomas; after which they all went to the lodgings of Conway, where they spent the night.

On the succeeding day (Sunday) they took a coach to Whitechapel, where they continued drinking till the dusk of the evening, when they went to Thomas's house for the pistols. Being unprovided with balls, they remained for a while in consultation what to substitute in their stead; and at length they cut a pewter spoon in pieces, and loaded their pistols.

This being done, Conway and Richardson went together, and the other two accompanied them, but at a small distance, that they might not appear to be a gang of ruffians. They met a gentleman's servant, whom they stopped; but, as he had no money, he was permitted to pass without farther molestation.

It happened that, in the afternoon, Mr. Venables, a butcher in Whitechapel, had been walking to Stepney, with his neighbour, Mr. Rogers, a carpenter; and they were returning to town when they were met by the villains above-mentioned, which happened a few minutes after they had parted from the gentleman's servant.

Mr. Venables and Mr. Rogers had the appearance of men from whom a considerable booty might



*Peter Conway & Michael Richardson shooting
Mr Venables and Mr Rogers, near Stepney Fields.*

might be expected; whereupon Conway stopped the former, and demanded his money; but, instead of delivering it, Mr. Venables, who was a robust man, twice knocked down Richardson and Fox; and they had no sooner recovered their legs, than Richardson and Conway instantly fired their pistols, and the two unoffending passengers were killed on the spot.

These unprovoked murders being thus perpetrated, the villains did not stay to rob the parties; but, with the consciousness of guilt, hurried away towards Stepney, whence they went to Ratcliff-highway, and thence to Wapping, where they stopped a man, and robbed him of eighteen shillings and his watch.

This robbery being committed, they hastened to Darkhouse-lane, near Billingsgate, where they staid during the night; and the next morning, after breakfasting at a public-house in Southwark, they parted, with a view of consulting their safety in flight.

The bodies of the deceased, being found in the road, were conveyed to the watch-house; and a surgeon being sent for, he examined the wounds, and found that they had been made by pieces of pewter.

On the following Wednesday Jackson was apprehended, on suspicion of having been concerned in the commission of these horrid murders. On his examination he gave information who were his accomplices; on which he was admitted an evidence for the crown.

In a few days after Jackson was taken in custody, Conway went to the shop of Mr. Burtman, a pawnbroker in Jermyn-street; where he offered a watch in pledge. An advertisement in the news-paper,

describing the person of Conway, having been read by Mr. Burtman, the latter imagined that he was the man thus described; on which he gave a hint to one of his servants to sit by Conway, while he (Burtman) examined the watch.

The servant, apprehending danger, whispered his master that it was probable he had pistols in his possession: on which a person was sent out, to request the attendance of the neighbours, with a view to prevent mischief. In the interim Conway, remarking that they whispered together, begged permission to retire to the vault; which he was readily allowed to do:—but on his return he was taken into custody, and a coach was called to convey him to Sir John Fielding's office in Bow-street.

As they were going thither, Mr. Burtman hinted a strong suspicion that Conway * was guilty of the murders; to which the latter made this remarkable and shocking answer; “D—n my eyes! though I am guilty (I mean not guilty) I could not shoot two men at once.”

When he was brought to the house of the magistrate above-mentioned, he was confronted with Jackson, when they mutually endeavoured to criminate each other; but the circumstances against Conway were so very suspicious, that Sir John Fielding did not hesitate to commit him to Newgate.

Richardson was likewise apprehended within five days after this commitment, and taken to Bow-street for examination; when the charge against him was so very strong, that he was likewise committed to Newgate, to abide the event of a trial by jury.

Jackson

* Some accounts give this man's name *Cornae-way*; but it is uncertain which is the true spelling.

Jackson having been admitted an evidence (as above-mentioned) bills of indictment were preferred, at the next sessions at the Old Bailey, against Conway and Richardson, who were thereupon put on their trials for the murders of Mr. Venables and Mr. Rogers. Jackson's evidence against them was full and positive; and this being strongly supported by that of the person of whom they had purchased the pistols, aided by a variety of collateral circumstances, the jury did not hesitate to convict them; the consequence of which was, that they were condemned to die.

After conviction they were, as usual in such cases, lodged in the cells of Newgate; and we are sorry to say that their penitence did not seem proportioned to the dreadful crime they had committed—a crime of the blackest dye, and altogether unprovoked by those who fell victims to their inhuman barbarity.

On the Monday following they were conveyed to the place of execution: an incredible number of people attending the solemn procession, and preparing to see the exit of men who had distinguished themselves by the atrociousness of their crimes, and whose story had excited the public curiosity in a very high degree.

Unprepared as these men appeared to have been for the dreadful fate that awaited them, yet, when they saw how near and how certain it was, they seemed to be shocked to a degree beyond description, and appeared as solemn and sincere in their devotions as others who had suffered at the fatal tree.

After execution their bodies were cut down and conveyed to Bow-common, where they were put in chains, and hung on a gibbet. It is hardly cre-
dible

dible to think what immense numbers of people went from London, to take a view of these malefactors while hanging in chains : to talk of a thousand, or ten thousand, would be saying nothing. Perhaps more than fifty thousand visited the spot within the first five days. On Sunday, particularly, the place resembled a crowded fair ; and many people got money by selling liquors and other provisions to the assembled multitude. So great was the crowd, that the banks in the neighbourhood, and even the hedges, were broken down, that the mob might gratify their eager curiosity.

These malefactors suffered at Tyburn on the 19th of July, 1770.

In the case of these men, the consciousness of guilt will appear in its most striking light ; for after they had committed the murders, such was their terror, that they did not dare to reap the intended fruits of their illegal expedition ; for we find that the murdered men were not robbed, but the guilty parties sought their safety in flight ; so true is that scriptural expression, “ the wicked fly, when no man pursueth.”

No account has ever reached us of what became of the accomplice Fox. It was presumed that he escaped out of the kingdom ; but could he escape from his own conscience ? from those terrors which must ever haunt the guilty mind ? Alas ! he could not. The attempt must have been vain ; since he carried about with him the consciousness of being a murderer, and must have had a perpetual hell within his own breast.

The story before us will serve to enforce, in a very emphatic manner, that divine command, “ Thou shalt do no murder.” May all the readers of this narrative be instructed in the doctrines of
humanity !

humanity! nor provoke the vengeance of that God, who, though he may be slow to punish, will not suffer his holy commands to be trampled under foot!



Account of the Case of JOHN STRETTON, who was executed for *robbing the Mail*; with an Account of the Circumstance that led to his *Detection*.

THIS unhappy man was descended from respectable parents, who gave him a liberal education; nor did any circumstance arise to throw blame on his character, till the discovery of the crime which cost him his life.

He was apprenticed to a grocer in London, and served his time with a degree of fidelity that would have done credit to any servant; and he appeared to gain the general good opinion of those who were acquainted with him.

At the expiration of his apprenticeship he went to live as a journeyman to a grocer in Bishopsgate-street, where he still maintained a fair character, and continued in this station several years, during which he married and had a daughter; but his wife died a considerable time before the perpetration of the fact which rendered him a fatal victim to the violated laws of his country.

Mr. Stretton, having by his frugality accumulated a sum of money, opened a shop in Bishopsgate-street on his own account, and had every reasonable prospect of success; for so regular had
been

been his conduct, and so irreproachable was his character, that not any person in his own way of business refused to give him credit to any reasonable amount.

Unhappily, however, he had not long embarked in trade before his ruin ensued, from a cause which one would have thought very unlikely to produce it.

Having conceived a design of advancing himself in life by a second marriage, and a butcher in the neighbourhood being reputed worth a considerable sum of money, he paid his addresses to his daughter, who was so well pleased with him, that she did not hesitate to make a declaration in his favour; but the father, unwilling to part with any money, as a portion for his daughter, resolved not to give his consent, because Mr. Stretton was not in circumstances of independence.

In the mean time the lovers contrived frequent opportunities of seeing each other, and the young woman repeatedly informed Mr. Stretton with the determination of her father. Chagrined by this circumstance, and resolved to remove the objection, which seemed to arise from his presumed poverty, he made the dreadful resolution of robbing the mail.

He had not, however, for some time, an opportunity of carrying his intention into execution; for he was seized with a severe fit of illness, which confined him to his bed for some weeks, during which time he was frequently visited by the girl whom he had courted, and also by her mother, who was a warm friend to the proposed marriage.

At length he recovered his health in a very considerable degree; on which he resolved to compleat, if possible, the plan which had so long agitated his mind.

mind. In pursuance hereof he took an opportunity when the shopman was in bed one Saturday night to quit the house, and go as far as the City-road, between Islington and London, where he awaited the arrival of the Northern mail, which came opposite Peerless-pool about two o'clock in the morning.

Stretton, observing the post-boy coming up, stopped the mail, and took out such bags as he thought proper; after which he went into Moor-fields, where he examined the contents of the bags, and taking out such bills and notes as he thought proper, left the bags behind him, and retired to his own house.

As soon as the robbery was made known at the post-office, the Postmaster-general offered by advertisement, as is usual on such occasions, a reward of two hundred pounds for the apprehension of the robber: but nothing transpired in the course of several weeks; and it is probable that the offender might have remained much longer undetected, but for the following circumstance.

Stretton still continued to pay his addresses to the butcher's daughter; but her father, unwilling that she should marry a man in low or doubtful circumstances, was continually talking to Stretton on the subject of money matters; till at length the latter was so imprudent as to shew him the drafts in his possession, and even to send a porter to Mr. Boldero's, the banker, for the acceptance of one of them, that no doubt might remain of their being good notes: but the porter had no sooner presented the bill, than he was detained, and a peace-officer, and other persons, were sent in search of Mr. Stretton, whom they found at his own house.

They enquired how he came to be possessed of the note in question: to which he replied, that he had taken it in the course of business from a person in Bond-street, who was in his debt.

This story did not seem to be credited: however a coach was called; and the parties went together to Bond-street, in search of the person who was said to have paid the bill: but no such man could be found; on which the suspicions against Stretton being greatly strengthened, he was conveyed to the house of Sir John Fielding, who committed him to Newgate, to abide the event of a trial.

Objections being made by council to the putting him on his trial at the first and second sessions after his commitment, it was accordingly brought on at the third*.

When Mr. Stretton was put on his trial, full proof arose that the drafts and notes which had been taken out of the mail were found in his house, and, as he could give no probable account how they came into his possession, there was a strong presumptive, amounting almost to positive, proof that he had himself committed the robbery; for it appeared evident to the jury, that a tradesman, who had taken these bills and notes in the common course of business, could have accounted for the manner in which he became possessed of them, or at least of the greater part of them.

After a full deliberation on the case, the jury did not hesitate to pronounce him guilty, the consequence

* It ought to be mentioned, to the credit of our courts of justice, that the slightest argument, which has but the appearance of reason, is sufficient to influence the bench in favour of the prisoner.

sequence of which was, that he received sentence of death.

After conviction he was regular in his attendance on the offices of divine worship; but no arguments that were made use of could prevail on him to acknowledge his guilt; and he steadily persisted in a denial of the justice of his sentence. Notwithstanding this, he appeared exceedingly penitent for all the faults which he had ever committed; and declared that he expected salvation only through the merits of the Redeemer of mankind: but with regard to robbing the mail, he insisted that he had never been guilty of it, and that he detested the thought of such an execrable business, and was totally innocent of the crime alledged against him.

These declarations he repeatedly made; and on the morning of execution, when he was called down to the press-yard, to have his irons knocked off, he was urged by the ordinary of Newgate to make an explicit confession of the crime; but, far from doing so, he still avowed his perfect innocence.

He was attended to the place of execution by immense crouds of people, who wished to hear the dying words of a man to be executed for so capital a crime, for which he would never acknowledge the justice of that verdict by which he had been condemned.

This unhappy man suffered at Tyburn, on the 1st of August, 1770.

Many people have thought it impossible, and indeed humanity would suppose it so, for any man to die with a lie in his mouth; but in the case of Stretton it will be very hard to form an opinion in his favour; for, if he did not obtain the notes and drafts by robbing the mail, how did he obtain them?—If he could have given an honest account

how he became possessed of them; if he could, a Shakespear emphatically phrases it, have delivered "a round unvarnished tale," it would have been almost impossible that he should have been convicted; for the jurymen of this country (to their honour be it recorded) are exceedingly tender of the lives of their fellow-citizens.

The presumption then, in this particular case, is very strong that the malefactor must have denied his crime from a species of pride altogether unwarrantable. We would not wish to be thought severe or uncharitable in our conjectures; but it is improbable that any man could have been possessed of the contents of a mail, which had been robbed, without knowing how they came into his possession.

His sending the draft to the banker's for acceptance is a proof of the most egregious folly; for he must have been morally certain that his messenger would be stopped, and that his own detection would inevitably ensue.

If we suppose that his love induced him to take this dangerous step; we should recollect that he had been married before, and was therefore the less likely to have been involved in a passion so violent as to tempt him to so dangerous an experiment.

Upon the whole, notwithstanding all appearances to the contrary, the presumption is very strong that this man was in distressed circumstances, which he sought to repair by marriage; but finding his hopes at least postponed, he took the most dangerous method imaginable to repair his shattered fortune.

It is astonishing that, during his sickness, he should not have had recollection enough to induce him

him to desist from carrying into execution the dangerous plan he had formed. In general, sickness is productive of thoughts more serious than those which attend us in perfect health: but the whole of this unhappy man's conduct should teach us to pray continually for the assisting grace of God, that we may not be led into temptation, but delivered from all the evils that surround us; so that, after a short passage through this troublesome world, we may be received into the arms of eternal mercy!



Account of the Trials of LUKE CANNON and JOHN SIDAY, who suffered for *Burglary*; with some Account of their Behaviour.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in the month of February, 1771, Luke Cannon and John Siday were indicted for breaking and entering the dwelling-house of the honourable Edward Stratford about two o'clock in the morning of the 12th of January preceding, and stealing silver plate, gold rings, diamonds, and a variety of other valuable articles, to the amount of two thousand pounds.

It would be equally useless and tedious to recount the particulars of the indictment; for the things stolen were so very numerous, that the bare recital of them would fill some pages of this work.

Mary Brain, who had been a servant to Mr. Stratford at the time of the robbery, deposed, that Cannon had likewise lived with her master, but had been discharged on the 2d of January; that

that Siday came for some cloaths which Cannon had left behind him; but that the servants would not deliver them, as they conceived he had no authority to come thither. She said that there was an area before the window of the fore kitchen, which she found to be fast at ten o'clock; and that the kitchen window-shutter was secure at eight o'clock; and likewise that the robbers must have entered at the fore-kitchen.

Alexander Cornelius deposed, that he was a servant of Mr. Stratford; and that when he arose on the morning of the 12th of January, he found a press burst open which he had safely locked on the preceding night, and that the plate was gone: that he found the plate chest in the house-keeper's room burst open; that the sash in the window of the area had been burst, and the cords were hanging to it; and that he observed many specks of wax about the hall, and some dirt which was not there on the preceding night. He said he had not been above ten or eleven days in Mr. Stratford's service, and was ignorant of what was lost out of the house-keeper's room.

Elizabeth Chamberlayne (the house-keeper) confirmed as much of Cornelius's evidence as came within her knowledge, and said that nothing was stolen from her room except the plate. She deposed that Cannon entered into Mr. Stratford's service at Bath; but she had never seen Siday till after he was taken into custody.

Mr. Stratford gave the particulars of his having been robbed, as far as he could be acquainted with them: he said, that he had taken Cannon into his service at Bath; but discharged him on the second of January, on finding him much flushed with li-

quor, as he made it a rule never to keep a servant who was attached to the vice of drunkenness.

Moses Levi, a dealer in old cloaths, deposed, that Siday called him into his lodgings in Seacoal-lane, on the 21st of January, when Cannon was present, and that he bought of Siday some valuable cloaths, and 650 ounces of plate, paying for it upwards of one hundred and seventy pounds in cash and a note; and that he paid a part of the sum to Siday, and a part to Cannon; and farther, that he sold the plate to Jacob Jacobs, the son of Lazarus Jacobs. The testimony of the witness was positive, that both the prisoners were present at the time he made the purchase.

There were a variety of corroborative circumstances, tending to prove the stealing and selling of the plate and other effects: but the affair was so clear to the jury, that they did not hesitate to find the prisoners guilty; in consequence of which they received sentence of death.

At the same time Lazarus Jacobs, Jacob Jacobs, and Michael Glannon, were tried for receiving the stolen effects; when Lazarus was acquitted, but Jacob Jacobs and Glannon were convicted, and sentenced to be transported for fourteen years, though they made very artful defences, and Glannon particularly brought many people to testify to his character:—but character will have little weight against positive evidence.

After conviction, the behaviour of Cannon and Siday was by no means adapted to their unhappy situation. They were attended, as usual in such cases, by the ordinary of Newgate, but paid little regard to his pious exhortations.

On the morning of execution Siday behaved in the most hardened manner; and of three others
that

that were condemned to suffer, one of them struck the executioner when he was put into the cart.

Immense crowds of spectators attended these unhappy young men to the place of their fatal exit; for their crimes had been much the subject of public conversation. Siday, in particular, had been concerned with George Birch in breaking open the house of Mr. Greenfield, linen-draper, in Fleet-street, and robbing it of goods to the amount of more than thirteen hundred pounds.

When they arrived at the place of execution, Cannon said, that he had been a single man, a married man, an honest man, and a rogue, within a twelvemonth; and in which time he should suffer.

Luke Cannon and John Siday were executed at Tyburn on the 27th of February, 1771.

Of Cannon we have not been able to learn any farther particulars than what may be gathered from the course of the evidence above recited. With regard to Siday, we are told, that he was born of respectable parents, well educated, and apprenticed to the very genteel profession of a Printer. What use he made of these advantages is but too plainly seen in the preceding narrative.

An early attachment to bad company, an early introduction to the paths of vice, led with rapid and certain success to his ruin. Such ruin may be expected, and ought to be dreaded, by every youth who dare not have the resolution of treading in the paths of virtue.

Yet, when we consider how much more easy it is to be honest than otherwise, how safe and how plain is the path of duty, one would wonder that

any

any could be blind enough to deviate into the ways of error!

From a serious consideration of the case before us, youth should be taught that a steady and unremitting perseverance in the line of duty, whatever little inconveniencies may seem to attend them at the time, will infallibly tend to promote their welfare, temporal and eternal.

What person in his senses would condescend to be a rogue, when it is so much his interest to be honest? To say nothing of higher considerations, the mere credit of living in reputation, and being spoken well of by all our neighbours, should be sufficient to put vice out of fashion!

In the case before us one excellent lesson is taught to servants: Mr. Stratford discharged Cannon, because he found him in liquor.—The reason was a good one. The man who will disguise himself, so as not to have the command of his own intellects, can never be the faithful servant of any master.

A full and particular Account of the Cases of LEVI WEIL, ASHER WEIL, JACOB LAZARUS, and SOLOMON PORTER, who were convicted of, and executed for, *Robbery and Murder*.

THE circumstance of the robbery at Mrs. Hutchins's house at Chelsea, and the murder that was the consequence of this egregious violation of the laws, must be within the memory of almost all our readers; but as the affair was greatly the subject of public conversation at the time, and a whole body of people were insulted for the

crimes of a few individuals, we think it proper to be as exact as possible in the recital of particulars.

The subjects of this shocking narrative were all of them Jews; and such were their proceedings, that it may be easily conceived that they were a disgrace to people of any persuasion.

Levi Weil had been educated in a rank above his accomplices. He had studied physic in the university of Leyden, where he was admitted to the degree of Doctor in that faculty; and then coming to England, he practised physic in London, with no inconsiderable degree of success, and was always known by the name of Doctor Weil: but so destitute was he of all principle, and such was the depravity of his heart, that he determined to engage in the dangerous practice of robbery; and, having formed this fatal resolution, he wrote to Amsterdam to some poor Jews to come to England, and assist him in his intended depredations on the public; and at the same time informed them that in England large sums were to be acquired by the practice of theft.

The inconsiderate men no sooner received Dr. Weil's letter, than they procured a passport from the English consul, and, embarking in the Harwich packet-boat, arrived in England.

They lost no time in repairing to London; and immediately attending Dr. Weil, he informed them that his plan was, that they should go out in the day-time, and minutely survey such houses near London as might probably afford a good booty in the night.

In pursuance of this plan they robbed the house of a lady near Cheshunt in Hertfordshire, and likewise that of Mr. Barclay near Endfield, whence they carried off plate and cash to a considerable amount.

This



Doyle delin.

Shawin sculp.

LEVI WEIL the Jew Doctor, preventing HYAM LAZAI
from shooting M^{RS} HUTCHINS at Chelsea?

This course of life they continued for some time, always binding the servants in the houses which they robbed, and leaving them in that situation till they might be relieved by any person who should witness their distress; and in the mean time the villains hastened to London with their ill-acquired booty.—But we now proceed to relate the particulars of the dreadful crime which ended in the death of the four malefactors whose names are mentioned at the head of this narrative.

Mrs. Hutchins was a widow-lady, who occupied a very considerable farm in the King's-road, Chelsea; and the Jews having made artful enquiries into her circumstances, and finding a probability of obtaining a valuable booty, they formed the resolution of robbing her house.

In pursuance of this plan they went to Chelsea on the evening of the 11th of June, 1771; and having remained in the field still the clock had struck ten, they went to the house of Mrs. Hutchins, and knocking at the door it was opened by a maid-servant.

The door was no sooner opened than eight Jews rushed into the house. At this time Mrs. Hutchins was in the parlour; but, hearing the barking of her dog, she ran forwards, to learn what occasioned the disturbance, when she found that the girl's cap was torn by the villains, who were treating her with very unwarrantable severity. Mrs. Hutchins would have assisted the girl, but Doctor Weil seized on her, and compelled her to sit down in a chair; after which he threw part of her clothes over her head, to prevent her having a view of the house-breakers; and he threatened to murder Mrs. Hutchins, if she made any disturbance.

Terrified into submission, she promised to remain in her present situation; and in the mean time five

of the Jews went up stairs to a room where Joseph Slow, and William Stone, two men-servants of Mrs. Hutchins, were in bed together, and in a sound sleep. Doctor Weil gave Stone a violent blow on the breast, by which he was awakened; and Slow starting up at that instant, one of the villains cried out, "shoot him;" and a pistol was immediately fired, the ball from which took place in the body of Slow, who instantly exclaimed, "Lord have mercy on me! I am murdered, I am murdered."

The villains now dragged the body of the wounded man towards the head of the stairs, which being observed by Stone, he made his escape out of the window; but, before he had effected his escape, he was fired at by one of the gang; though happily the shot did not take effect.

They now proceeded to plunder the house, and obtained a considerable booty in plate. After this they applied to Mrs. Hutchins for money. She gave them her watch; but still they insisted on money, which they said they came for, and would have, or they would destroy her. One of them struck her so forcibly on the mouth, as to loosen a tooth; on which, in the dread of still farther violence, she went up stairs with them, and gave them sixty-four guineas.

Having thus obtained all the booty they could, the villains quitted the house; on which Mrs. Hutchins went to see how her servants had fared in this horrid violation of law and humanity. She found two of the maid-servants bound together; and no sooner had she given them their liberty, than the wounded man approached her, and said, "How are you, Madam?—for I am dead."—These words were scarcely pronounced, when he dropped on

on the floor; and, having languished under the most excruciating pains till the afternoon of the following day, he then expired, leaving behind him a wife and two children to lament his loss.

The murderers having effected a perfect escape, remained undiscovered for a considerable time, till Daniel Isaacs, one of the gang, became the means, in the hand of Providence, of discovering his accomplices. The case was this.—Isaacs was one of those unhappy men who had been induced to come from Holland in consequence of Dr. Weil's letter; and being now reduced to circumstances of distress, he applied for assistance to the elders of the Jewish synagogue.

The treasurer of the synagogue, Mr. Myers,* refused Isaacs any immediate assistance, urging as a reason, that he had acted improperly in leaving his native country, Holland, where he might have probably obtained an honest livelihood, and coming to England, where he could not have an equal chance of living in credit.

The robbery and murder at Mrs. Hutchins's was no sooner known, than a reward was offered, from the Secretary of State's office, for the apprehension of the offenders; and this offer was seconded by that of a much more considerable reward from the city of London: on which, Isaacs, greatly reduced by poverty, and tempted by the prospect of the reward, went to Mr. Myers, whom he made acquainted with the whole of the shocking transaction.

Hereupon Mr. Myers took Isaacs to Sir John Fielding's office, where he was strictly examined,
and

* Mr. Myers was always as ready to promote the punishment of dishonest Jews, as to protect honest men of the same religion.

and admitted an evidence against his accomplices, six of whom were soon apprehended; but the other made his escape, and it is supposed he went abroad, as he has not been heard of since.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey, in the month of December, 1771, Levi Weil, Asher Weil, Marcus Hartogh, Jacob Lazarus, Solomon Porter, Lazarus Harry, and Abraham Linevill (the party who had absconded), were indicted for the felony and murder above-mentioned; when the two of the name of Weil; with Jacob Lazarus, and Solomon Porter, were capitally convicted; and Marcus Hartogh, and Lazarus Harry, were acquitted.

These men, as is customary in all cases of murder, when it can be made convenient to the court, were tried on a Friday; and on the following day they were anathematized in the synagogue.

As their execution was to take place on the Monday following, one of their Rabbies went to them in the press-yard of Newgate, and delivered to each of them a Hebrew book; but declined attending them to the place of death, nor even prayed with them at the time of his visit.

They were attended to the place of execution by immense crowds of people, who were anxious to witness the exit of wretches whose crimes had been so much the object of public notice.

Having prayed together, and sung an hymn in the Hebrew language, they were launched into eternity. After the bodies had hung the customary time, that of Doctor Weil was delivered to the gentlemen of the Royal Academy, while those of his accomplices were conveyed to Surgeons'-hall to be dissected.

These victims to the violated laws suffered at Tyburn on the 9th of December, 1771.

Every

Every one who has read this narrative, will allow that the crime of the above-mentioned malefactors was of the first magnitude; and that the forfeit they paid was not too great for the offences they had committed;—burglary and murder equally uprovoked:—but their crime, conviction, and execution, gave rise to a scene of insult and inhumanity highly reproachful to the lower ranks of people in London: nor were those in superior stations wholly divested of it.

A Jew could scarcely pass the streets but he was upbraided with the words, “Hutchins,” and “Chelsea,” and many of them were pulled by the beards; while those, who ought to have taken the insulters into custody, stood calmly by, and triumphed in the insult.

All this might arise from what they thought to be, and, perhaps, might be, generous impulses; but shall any person of liberal breeding see a fellow-subject insulted, in defiance of law and reason, and not endeavour to protect him? All the rights of humanity, as well as the laws of the land, forbid the supposition.

There is something wantonly cruel in affronting the whole body of a people, because a few individuals of that people have rendered themselves obnoxious by the atrocity of their guilt. As well might we affront an Englishman, because an Englishman may have suffered the sentence of the law, as a Jew, because that fatal sentence may have followed the crimes of some of his profession.

In this case, to put all considerations of good manners and decorum out of the question, christian charity ought to prevail; and we should no more quarrel with a man because he cannot coincide with

us in sentiments, than we should for not being born with us at the same time and place with ourselves.

A true christian will pity and forgive the errors of a Jew:—he has the glorious light of the gospel to guide him; and devoutly ought he to be thankful for its superior influence! The Jews hope for a Messiah to come: we boast of the revelation already made; and surely our compassion ought to be extended to those whom we think less happy than ourselves:—This is the very essence of charity; and he, who cannot pity the man that he thinks in distress, is scarcely deserving of pity from others.

Christians ought to offer up their most ardent thanks to God who has bestowed on them the blessings of divine revelation; and well may they say, in the words of the poet,

Lord I ascribe it to thy grace,
And not to chance, as others do,
That I was born of Christian race,
And not a Heathen, or a Jew.

What would the ancient Jewish kings,
And Jewish prophets, once have given,
Could they have heard the glorious things,
Which Christ reveal'd, and brought from hea-
[ven!

After all, much must be allowed to the force of birth, and the prejudice of education; nor can the sincerest Christian, firm as he thinks he treads on christian ground, be assured, that he should not have been a Jew, if he had been born of Jewish parents, and educated in that persuasion.

Humility, therefore, and devout reverence for the blessings of the gospel-revelation, are the great
lessons

lessons to be drawn from this serious conclusion of a very melancholy tale; and we hope they will be properly attended to by all our readers!



Account of the extraordinary Cases of EDWARD BIRCH, and MATTHEW MARTIN, who were hanged at *Tyburn* for *Forgery*; with some Account of their Behaviour after Conviction.

THE first mentioned of these malefactors, Birch, was the son of very respectable parents, and born at Hereford; and after having received a very liberal education, he served as a lieutenant in the militia during the late war.

Being concerned in a matter respecting a family estate, the right of which was litigating in the court of chancery, he came to London in the year 1766; and as his business obliged him to stay in town for a considerable time, and being of a scheming turn of mind, and possessed of some money, he determined to employ it in some manner that he thought would prove advantageous.

While he was deliberating on the best method of disposing of his money, he became acquainted with a person named Cobb, a mechanic of singular ingenuity, who had contrived a machine for the catching of fish in much greater numbers than by the usual methods.

Mr. Cobb was not in circumstances to carry his plan into execution, yet was exceedingly anxious to reap the fruits of his ingenuity. It is not therefore to be wondered at, that he readily embraced

an offer of partnership with Birch, who was able to lay down the sum that might be wanted for the completion of the scheme. This being the situation of both parties, the partnership of course ensued, the terms of which were very advantageous to Birch.

Mr. Cobb having procured a patent to secure to him the sole emoluments to arise from his scheme, Birch advanced the money to pay for it, and a farther sum to fit out a vessel, which was sent to sea under the immediate direction of Cobb. This step was intended only as an effort of the success that was likely to attend the scheme; but as the first trial exceeded the most sanguine expectations of either party, Birch formed the ungenerous design of becoming sole proprietor of the patent.

With this view he found a pretence to quarrel with Cobb. The scheme did not take complete effect; but the partnership was dissolved on the following terms, viz. "that Birch should be allowed the use of Cobb's machine to fish with till such time as the money owing to him was paid, while Cobb was to carry on the fishery in what manner he thought proper." This agreement took place early in the year 1768, and Cobb being now reduced to very low circumstances, embarked for Denmark, where he continued many months.

Birch, in the mean time, flattered himself with the hope of obtaining a very considerable fortune by the new project; and at this time he married a girl, with whom he received a fortune of five hundred pounds. During Mr. Cobb's absence from England, Birch went to South Wales, where he engaged in the business of the fishery, which, for
some

some months, was attended with as great success as could have been expected.

In order to dispose to advantage of the fish thus taken, an agent was employed to sell them in London; and they were regularly sent up in machines constructed for bringing them up with expedition, and without injury.

It happened that a quarrel arose between Birch and the person who was his agent, respecting the punctuality of payments; on which the latter was arrested by Birch; but he instantly gave bail to the action, and then prevailed on a rope-maker to arrest Mr. Birch.

These matters were litigated with the utmost warmth and imprudence on both sides; till, at length, Birch found himself so embarrassed by the expences of law,* that he was obliged to take refuge in a prison.

The business of his fishery was now wholly neglected, and at length he determined to take the benefit of an insolvent act; and it is said that he was perjured in this matter, swearing that he was in Ireland at the time prescribed by law, though he had not been out of this kingdom; but this we do not aver as a fact, unwilling to load the unfortunate, and the deceased, with the imputation of crimes which possibly they may never have committed; and we are the more diffident of admitting the alledged crime in this particular case, because it is probable, that if Birch had been perjured, he would have been prosecuted with the utmost severity of the law.

* Surely no man in his senses would deliberately embark in law. How many instances do we see of the lawyers swallowing up the whole property!

Be this as it may, he was now in circumstances of great distress, having no other support for himself and his wife than what arose from the casual bounty of his friends.

We are told, that for a year after he was cleared by the act for the relief of insolvent debtors, he was perpetually devising schemes to raise money, some of which were not the most laudable; and that at length he engaged in a forgery, not less extraordinary in the design, than fatal in its consequences.

It happened that Sir Andrew Chadwick, who was one of the band of gentlemen pensioners, was in possession of estates to a very considerable amount. Sir Andrew, having attained a very great age, had repeatedly drawn his will, at distant periods, but had not signed his name to any will that he had made, though there were many copies of what he intended to have done for his relations and immediate heirs at law.

Birch becoming acquainted with a woman who had found one of the wills in an old trunk that had been the property of Sir Andrew, the former seemed to think, on the perusal of it, that some emolument might arise from the possession of this paper.

In a short time afterwards Sir Andrew died; and no will regularly executed being found, a gentleman of Lancashire, who had married a niece of the deceased, took possession of his fortune, in defect of claim being made by any nearer relation.

In the mean time Birch made diligent enquiry after the relations of Sir Andrew, and at length found that one of them, who lived in Ireland, had a better title to the estate than the person

who was then in possession of it. With a view to make a private advantage, Birch made known his discovery to Matthew Martin, the other subject of this melancholy narrative. Martin was a watch-maker by profession, and in easy circumstances. He advanced a sum of money to enable Birch to go to Ireland, and find out the right heir to the estate.

Birch set out on this expedition; and having found more than one claimant, he returned to London, and made a new will in the name of the deceased, conveying the fortune to the Irish relations. This being done, Birch and Martin submitted the forged will to the inspection of an attorney; and it was agreed to commence an action for recovery, against the gentleman who was in possession of the estate.

It appeared that the presumptive will had been dated in the year 1764; but some drafts of wills made since that time by Sir Andrew Chadwick being found among the papers of the deceased, a suspicion arose that a forgery had been committed in the business: on which Birch and Martin were taken into custody, and carried to Sir John Fielding's office, where Birch's behaviour was plausible in a very high degree; and he gave such an account of his becoming possessed of the will, as would have satisfied persons not aware of the knavery of mankind. Several persons attended at the office, ready to bail Birch and Martin; but the magistrate refused to accept of any bail, and committed the prisoners to Newgate.

In the interim between the commitment and the trial, one of the most extraordinary circumstances happened that was ever recorded in a work of this nature. A paper-maker who lived at Maidstone, being

being in town on his private business, fell into company with the attorney who was employed to carry on the prosecution; and the conversation happening to turn on the circumstances of the presumed forgery, he begged to have a sight of the will, which at this time being in the hands of Sir John Fielding, the attorney took him to the office of that magistrate, where the will was presented to him; and no sooner had he taken a view of it, than he declared, that in the year 1768 he had made the paper on which that very will was written.

The trial of the prisoners was brought on at the ensuing session of gaol delivery at the Old Bailey. The paper-maker above mentioned was an evidence, and the most material one, on the trial; for he proved, that the paper had a mark upon it, which he himself invented in the year 1768, and he positively swore that the paper was of his own manufacture.

Though there were several collateral proofs of the fact, yet they would not have been of sufficient weight to convict the prisoners, but for this positive evidence of the paper-maker. Birch cross-examined the witnesses in such a manner as proved that he was a man of subtlety and address; but, notwithstanding all his artifices, both the prisoners were found guilty, after a trial which continued thirteen hours.

The council for the convicts moved an arrest of judgment on the last day of the sessions, founded on a point of law presumed to have arisen in their favour. No objection being made to this motion, the sentence was postponed till the final opinion of the learned judges had been taken on the case.

This case was learnedly argued before the judges (nine of whom were present) at Serjeants'-inn-hall, in Michaelmas term, 1771; when the reverend bench was unanimous in opinion, that the convicts were guilty of the crime alledged against them; in consequence of which they were condemned to die.

After sentence of death was passed on them, they behaved with a decent and devout resignation to their fate; for not entertaining the least hope of that pardon which could not reasonably be expected, they made every preparation for the awful change that was to await them.

On the day of execution they were fervent in their devotions at the fatal tree; and, after the customary ceremonies on such solemn occasions, they were turned off, and, after hanging the usual time, their bodies were delivered to their friends, in order to be buried.

These unhappy men suffered at Tyburn on the 2d of January, 1772.

The intervention of Providence in the detection of guilt is most strongly exhibited in the case of these malefactors. Who could have conceived that the discovery of forgery should have arisen from a circumstance so apparently trifling as the writing a presumptive will on one sheet of paper rather than on another?—Yet so it happened. Little did the forger think, when he purchased the sheet of paper, that it was to be the immediate instrument of his own destruction!

We have had many opportunities, in the course of this work, of remarking on the horrid nature and dangerous consequences of forgery; but nothing has equalled the particularity of the cases of Birch and Martin, and perhaps such an instance may

may not occur again for an age:—yet surely this ought to afford a lesson of the highest caution, never to be guilty of a crime which leads to such certain and absolute destruction.

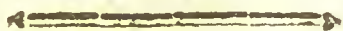
One would think common considerations of honesty might prevent the commission of an act so detrimental to the commercial world; and yet forgeries are generally committed by persons in trade. What would the tradesman, who is daring enough to take up the pen to forge a bill, think of another, who should take such a liberty with himself? He would be ready to execrate him as a villain. This consideration ought to be allowed to have its due influence: “Do unto others as you would they should do unto you,” is a precept of divine authority, and ought to be of perpetual force.

In the affair of the malefactors in question their council started an objection, which left their case to the consideration of the judges. Very few cases have we known where the opinions of the judges differed from those of the juries of this country. In fact the juries, according to the construction of our laws, and in the eye of reason, are the true judges of the fact, the essential declarers of the guilt or innocence of the party accused.

Notwithstanding this, we ought to think ourselves happy in the tender exertion of our legislative power. When one jury has found a man guilty, the slightest error, real or accidental, will entitle his case to the retrospection of a second, that of the venerable bench of judges, who cannot be supposed to be biassed by any interest, to be influenced by any consideration, to give their opinions in favour of either party, contrary to the established rules of right, and the known laws of the land.

Upon

Upon the whole, we have a claim to triumph in the protection afforded us by the laws; and those who wilfully transgress them, ought to be punished in the most exemplary manner.



A full and particular Account of the Case of ROBERT POWEL, who was hanged at Tyburn, for *Forgery*; with such *Reflections* as naturally arise from the Subject.

THIS unhappy victim to the violated laws of his country was a native of Merioneth, in North Wales. His parents were poor people; but were distinguished by the honesty and regularity of their conduct. They educated him as well as their circumstances would permit them, and then sent him to London, in the hope that he might be able to advance himself in life.

Powel had not been long in town before he obtained the place of a shopman, in the service of a tradesman of reputation. In this station his behaviour was so unexceptionable, and there was so much of gracefulness in his person and manner, that his master soon raised his wages, and sought every opportunity of promoting his interest: indeed, every person in the family was pleased with the decorum that appeared in all his behaviour; which was laid down as a rule of conduct that ought to be observed and copied by the other servants.

By an even and steady course of industry, he saved money enough to embark in business for himself; and, on the death of his master,

courted the sister of Mr. Taylor Barrow, who held a place of some importance in the custom-house, Mr. Barrow, exclusive of his place, carried on a considerable business; and Mr. Powel, having engaged in trade, was as successful as the most sanguine of his friends could have wished him to be; and, in general, was looked upon to be a young man in a thriving way of business.

In fact, he was soon in very flourishing circumstances, and his success induced him, contrary to the advice of his friends, to take a large farm a few miles from the metropolis; which took up more of his time and attention, than it can be presumed a tradesman could spare from his business; so that the wonder will be less that ruin should ensue.

Having involved himself by undertaking too many concerns, he was reduced in circumstances, and determined on the commission of that forgery which cost him his life.

His brother-in-law, Mr. Taylor Barrow, was possessed of very considerable property in the East-India Stock. Powel, being apprized of this, and knowing that stock bore a very high price at that time, forged his name to an order for the selling out four hundred pounds.

This being done, he went to a coffee-house, and enquired for a broker. The master of the house recommended him to a Mr. Portis, who was largely concerned in the brokery-business. Mr. Portis, being sent for, attended Powel to the East-India-house in Leadenhall-street, where the latter declared that he was Taylor Barrow, the proprietor of the stock, which he transferred by imitating the hand of his brother-in-law with so much art, that no suspicion arose of the forgery.

On the day the stock was transferred Portis sold it to a third person, and giving the produce to Powel, he immediately quitted his family, and went into Wales on a visit to his relations.

It was not long before a discovery was made of the forgery, and a large reward was offered for the apprehension of Powel; but Portis being totally unacquainted with his name, and none of his friends or relations conceiving that he could have been concerned in such a transaction, no suspicion of his guilt arose for a considerable time.

In the mean time, Portis exerted his utmost diligence to discover the offender; but all his endeavours proved fruitless, till a circumstance merely accidental occasioned his apprehension. Powel continued in Wales till he presumed the affair was forgotten in London, where he was received in the most affectionate manner by his relations, who had no idea of what had passed; for if they had, they would undoubtedly have advised him to consult his safety in flight.

Powel now lived on Dowgate-hill; and about a month after his return to London, he went to Cheapside on business, and after that to Lombard-street, when Mr. Portis met him near the Post-office.

Powel happened at this time to be dressed in the same cloaths that he wore when the forgery was committed; and Mr. Portis immediately recollected his person, but was unwilling to take him into custody till he was fully convinced that he was not mistaken in the man. Powel, observing that Portis regarded him with some attention, turned his face aside, from a consciousness of guilt, and to prevent the other from having a full knowledge of him.

Mr. Portis passed him, but immediately turned back, and took a second, and afterwards a third view of him; when, no doubt remaining in his mind that he was the real offender, he took him by the arm, and begged him to accompany him to the coffee-house, where they had first met. Powel pretended not to have any knowledge of the other party; but Portis resolutely insisting that he should go with him, the latter complied with as much grace as he could, to prevent any disturbance happening in the street.

They no sooner got to the coffee-house than the master and one of the waiters, at the desire of Portis, paid an attentive regard to Powel, and averred that he was the man who had asked for the broker to sell the stock.

On this the prisoner was taken before the sitting-alderman at Guildhall, and his person being positively sworn to, the magistrate committed him to Newgate, in order to his being tried at the next sessions at the Old Bailey.

When the trial came on, the culprit produced a number of people to prove that he was in the country at the time the robbery was committed; but the Jury, not being satisfied with their testimony, brought in their verdict that he was guilty.

When he was taken to the bar to receive sentence of death, his council moved, that the judgment might be postponed, "on account of some informality in the record;" and the court, ever attentive to the laws of humanity, acceded to the motion.

The consequence was, that in Michaelmas term, 1771, the case was learnedly argued before the judges, who were unanimously of opinion, that Powel had been guilty of the forgery; whereupon
sentence

sentence was passed that he should undergo the judgment awarded by law.

After condemnation, his behaviour was highly proper for a man in his unhappy situation. He was earnest and regular in his devotions, made every proper preparation for death, and resigned to his fate with the composure that became a christian, who placed his hopes on a better world than that, to a longer residence in which he had forfeited his title.

He was indulged with a mourning coach to the place of execution, where his conduct was such as proved him properly affected by his situation. He appeared sincere and ardent in his devotions; and after he was turned off, and his body had hung the usual time, it was delivered to his friends for interment.

Robert Powel suffered at Tyburn on the 2d of January, 1772.

In the case of this offender we see the almost absolute impossibility of concealing a guilty transaction. His name was unknown to Portis; his crime was a secret even from his relations; and he remained in Wales till he thought the affair was forgot; yet he had been but a short time in London before he found himself in Newgate, for the commission of that very crime which he flattered himself had been effectually concealed; and an ignominious death followed.

Mysterious are the ways of Providence, and past finding out. Who that reads this history will feel able to admire that divine wisdom and justice which cannot be comprehended?

If Powel could have been contented with his situation, he might have lived in credit and reputation. The keeping of farms near London has been

the ruin of many a tradesman.—A regular attention to one branch of business is generally productive of more profit than the embarking in a variety of schemes; and as such we would recommend it to all our Readers who are engaged in the mercantile line.

Particular Account of the many atrocious Villanies practised by JAMES BOLLAND, who, after a long *Career of Wickedness*, in which he experienced a Variety of *Changes of Fortune*, was executed at *Tyburn*, for *forging an Endorsement upon a Promissory Note*.

THE father of this malefactor was a butcher, and he brought his son up to the same business. The youth gave early proofs of a profligate turn of mind, and constantly associated with worthless people of both sexes.

The term of his servitude being expired, Bolland opened a shop in the Borough of Southwark; and his business afforded him a very favourable prospect of success; but through his irregularity and extravagance his trade gradually declined, and to free himself from some embarrassments that his misconduct had produced, he sold his effects.

Bolland's favourite associates for some years had been bailiffs, bailiff's-followers, thief-takers, and the runners to the different prisons: and the natural cruelty of his disposition being encouraged by the example of the worthless people in whose company he spent the greatest part of his time, he re-

solved to gain a maintenance by preying upon the distresses of his fellow-creatures.

Having procured himself to be appointed one of the officers to the sheriff of the county of Surrey, he hired a house at the bottom of Falcon-court, facing St. George's-church, Southwark; and, having fitted it up in the manner of a prison, it was soon inhabited by a number of unfortunate persons.

The people he arrested, who were in indigent circumstances, he took to gaol as soon as the law would permit; but such as were in a different situation were entertained at his house till all their money was spent, or they insisted upon going to prison, to avoid further imposition, or till the writs by which they were detained became returnable. The money he extorted from his guests, by divers stratagems, was so considerable, that he held the fees usually paid at lock-up-houses as almost beneath his regard, and frequently distributed them among his followers and other servants.

Bolland was continually endeavouring to encourage card-playing in his house, and when his unfortunate guests had recourse to that diversion, for employing the tedious moments of confinement, he seldom failed to join in the game; and though he suffered no opportunity of cheating them, even in the most palpable manner, to escape him, they were obliged to submit to the insult and imposition; for if they ventured to expostulate on the unfairness of his proceedings, it was his custom to discharge a volley of blasphemous oaths, and to threaten that he would instantly take them to gaol, for daring to affront him in his own house.

Some of his prisoners, hoping their affairs would be speedily compromised, and others who were
not

not so happy as to entertain such favourable expectations, wishing to remain as long as possible without the walls of a prison; the insolence of the tyrant was frequently submitted to by men, who, had not their spirits been depressed by the weight of misfortunes, would have disdained to be made the dupes of such atrocious and palpable villainy.

Though the emoluments arising from the infamous practices of Bolland were very considerable, they were not equal to the expences of his profligate course of life. His wine-merchant and many other persons having demands upon him that he was unable to discharge, he procured a person to sue out a commission of bankruptcy against him; but before the commission took place he secreted his most valuable effects; and he farther defrauded his creditors, by giving notes and other securities to a number of people who had received no valuable considerations from him; and by means of these nominal creditors he obtained his certificate in a very short time.

Among a great number of frauds committed while he lived in the Borough was the following: he went into Oxfordshire, and there purchased a string of horses. Having paid for them, he expressed a desire of having a mare, which the owner positively refused to sell. However the following morning Bolland took away the horses he had bought, and with them the mare, wholly unknown to the person whose property she was. The owner of the mare intended to prosecute Bolland for the felony; but he was dissuaded from that measure, and advised to draw a bill upon him for the value of the beast. Bolland accepted the bill, but he became a bankrupt before the time of payment arrived.

The infamous practices of Bolland had now rendered his character so notorious, that the attornies imagined that, if they continued to employ him, they should be reflected upon for encouraging so abandoned a villain; and such repeated and heavy complaints were made against him, that his business rapidly declined: but, instead of endeavouring to obtain better success, by an amendment of his conduct, he seized every opportunity of practising extortion and defraud with greater rapacity, and became a still more abominable pest to society.

He resolved to move from Surry into the county of Middlesex, where he expected more frequent opportunities would occur for gratifying his avaricious and oppressive disposition. Notwithstanding the infamy that was justly annexed to the character of this accomplished villain, he procured persons to become his bondsmen, and made interest to be nominated one of the officers to the sheriff of Middlesex.

He opened a spunging-house in the Savoy; but it was some time before he had a prospect of success. He industriously sought every opportunity of joining in conversation with attornies, and by an artful insinuating conduct at length ingratiated himself into the favour of several of that fraternity, who were not very remarkable either for discernment or integrity; and his business gradually increased.

Bolland was an almost daily frequenter of places where billiards and other games were practised; and at one of these meetings he fell into company with a gentleman, who employed him to assist the captain of a ship in the East-India service for a sum of three hundred pounds, promising him a handsome compliment on condition of his receiving

the money, or taking the prisoner into custody. Bolland assured his employer that he would use his utmost endeavours to serve the writ the next day.

The following morning the gentleman set out for the country, and in the course of the day Bolland arrested the captain, who immediately paid the debt and costs. In a short time the captain proceeded on his voyage; and the gentleman at whose suit he had been arrested coming to London soon afterwards, Bolland waited upon him, and said that, though he had made use of every stratagem he could possibly devise, the captain had eluded all his art, and got to sea; and, in order to enhance the promised gratuity, he pretended that his extraordinary vigilance to serve the writ had involved him in much trouble and some expence, for the truth of which he appealed to his followers, who readily supported all the falsities advanced by their wicked employer; and the gentleman, being thus deceived, he made Bolland a handsome present.

Upon the return of the ship from the East-Indies, another writ was taken out; but Bolland being gone to a horse-race, it was given to another officer. The bailiff went to Blackwall, and presently finding the captain, said he must either pay the three hundred pounds, or go with him to a place of security: but the captain shewing the officer Bolland's receipt for the money, he returned to town, and informed his employer that the debt was discharged previous to the captain's sailing for India.

A suit at law was now instituted against Bolland, for the recovery of the three hundred pounds. Justice was so indisputably clear on the side of the plaintiff, that Bolland knew he must inevitably be cast,

cast, if the matter came to trial ; yet, at a considerable expence, he protracted a judicial decision of the case, imagining his adversary wuld give up his claim, rather than pursue him through all the delays and chicanery of the law.

The cause at length was brought to a hearing ; and judgment being pronounced in favour of the plaintiff, Bolland, being surrendered by his bail, was taken in execution. He was conducted to a lock-up house, where he remained some time, and then moved himself by Habeas Corpus to the Fleet prison, from which place he was released by virtue of an act of insolvency.

Bolland, and a person with whom he had contracted an acquaintance in the Fleet, were enlarged nearly at the same time ; and the latter soon after went into business, and found means to procure bondsmen for his companion, who was again appointed an officer to the sheriff of Middlesex.

Bolland now hired a large house in Great Shire-lane, near Temple-bar, but, that the outward appearance might not convey an intimation of the severe and tyrannical treatment that was to be exercised within, the windows were not, according to the general custom at spunging-houses, secured with iron bars.

When prisoners came into the house, he informed them that it was his custom to charge six shillings per day for board and lodging ; adding, that the entertainment would be such as should give universal satisfaction, and that all trouble and disagreements concerning reckonings would be avoided : and such as refused to comply with these exorbitant terms were instantly conducted to gaol.

When Bolland's prisoners appeared inclinable to remove to the King's Bench or Fleet, he used

every artifice he could suggest for detaining them in his house till they had exhausted the means of supplying his extravagant avarice: but when their money was expended, no entreaties could prevail upon the merciless villain to give them credit for the most trifling article, or to suffer them to continue another hour in his house. His common excuse for his rapacious and brutal conduct was, that he incurred very considerable expence by supporting a house for accommodating gentlemen, and such as wished to be treated consistently with that character must pay accordingly.

Notwithstanding the public infamy of Bolland's character, he transacted perhaps more than double the business of any man of the same profession.

Not satisfied with the great emoluments he derived from cruelly oppressing his unhappy prisoners, he had recourse to practices which, though not less iniquitous in themselves, were more calculated to bring him under the censure of the law. He defrauded a great number of tradesmen of property to a considerable amount; and among them was an upholsterer, of whom he obtained household furniture to the value of two hundred pounds, under false pretences.

Though Bolland was a married man, he was violently addicted to the company of abandoned women; and when his wife expostulated on the impropriety of his illicit connexions, he applied to her the most disgraceful epithets, accompanied with volleys of profane oaths, and frequently beat her in a barbarous manner.

His conversation proved the vulgarity of his breeding, and his whole behaviour marked him as a worthless and detestable character. These disqualifying circumstances however proved no impediment

diment to his being received on terms of familiarity by several women who were in the keeping of persons of distinction. But this will be no longer surprising, when it is considered that money is ever a sufficient recommendation to the favour of that abandoned part of the sex who subsist on the wages of prostitution.

Bolland frequently took debtors into custody who had sought shelter within the verge of the board of Green Cloth; and for an offence of this kind he was once called before the board, and ordered to pay the sum for which he had illegally detained the complaining party.

Bolland was connected with two men of infamous characters; one of whom was chiefly employed in discovering persons on whom the arts of villainy might be practised with the most success; and the other was an attorney, by whose assistance Bolland was frequently relieved from embarrassments, and enabled to execute his villainous projects in such a manner as to evade the punishment of the law.

Bolland, and his two associates above mentioned, got possession of a bill for thirty pounds, that had been stolen out of a gentleman's pocket. The bill was presented for payment, which was refused, the party on whom it was drawn alledging that it had been stolen. Hereupon the attorney wrote to the gentleman, that an arrest would follow, unless the bill was immediately discharged. The answer signified that, if an arrest was resolved upon, the writ might be left with an attorney in Chancery-lane, who would put in bail.

Mortified and disappointed by the spirited repulse they had received, and despairing of obtaining cash for the bill by means of threats, they determined

terminated to arrest the gentleman, and take him to Bolland's house, where they supposed they could scarcely fail of extorting some money from him.

A messenger was dispatched to desire the gentleman's company at the King's Head tavern in Bridges-street. He attended according to the appointment, and was arrested by Bolland; who, pretending to be desirous of acting with all possible lenity, told the gentleman that he would waive his power of taking him to a place of confinement, lest his reputation should be injured, on condition that he would give him proper security. Hereupon the gentleman deposited thirty pounds in Bolland's hands; but the note was still detained, with a view of gaining further advantage.

The gentleman communicated all the circumstances that had come to his knowledge to his attorney, who moved the court of King's Bench for a rule. Bolland, and his accomplices, however, determined still to contest the matter, though they were conscious that the cause must be decided in favour of their adversary.

When prisoners came into Bolland's house, he immediately employed his followers to make particular enquiries into the state of their pecuniary affairs, and the extent of their connexions; and, according to the information he received, he suggested plans for deceiving his unhappy guests.

A young gentleman whose imprudencies had drawn upon him the displeasure of his friends, was arrested at the suit of his taylor, and confined in Bolland's house. His money being soon expended, and despairing of being able to effect a compromise with his creditor, he expressed a desire of being moved to the King's Bench or the Fleet. Bolland informed him that he must be taken to Newgate,
that

that being the gaol for the county; and that he could not be moved to either of the other prisons but by means of a writ of Habeas Corpus. The young gentleman was greatly alarmed at the idea of being confined in Newgate, which he supposed to be a place for the reception only of felons. Bolland, perceiving his anxiety, advised him to recall his resolution, saying that if he would follow his directions, a method might still be adopted for relieving him from all his difficulties. Anxious to recover his liberty, the youth said, if Bolland would signify the means by which so desirable a purpose was to be obtained, he would gladly embrace the proposal, and ever consider him as his most generous benefactor. Hereupon Bolland informed him that he would immediately procure bail, and then recommend him to different tradesmen, of whom he might obtain a chariot and horses, household furniture, and other effects, on credit; adding, that he would find no difficulty in obtaining a fortune by marriage, before he would be called upon for the discharge of his debts.

The young man being released on the bail of two of Bolland's accomplices, a chariot was procured, and a house hired and furnished in a superb manner, and one of Bolland's followers assumed the character of a footman, from the double motive of assisting in the scheme of villainy, and reporting to his principal all the particulars of the conduct of the imprudent young man.

Reports were industriously propagated that the youth was heir to an immense fortune; and, by a variety of stratagems, effects to a considerable amount were obtained from different tradesmen, great part of which were deposited in Bolland's house,

house, by way of security to him for the bail he had procured.

Payment for the furniture and other effects being demanded, the creditors were for some time amused by a variety of plausible pretences: but at length they became exceedingly importunate for their money; and Bolland, now concluding that the young man could no longer be made subservient to his villainous stratagems, surrendered him in discharge of his bail, and caused him to be conveyed to Newgate.

The persons whom he had been seduced to defraud were no sooner acquainted with the imprisonment of the young adventurer than they lodged detainers against him. His unfortunate connexions having greatly exasperated his relations and friends, they refused to afford him any kind of assistance, and his situation became truly deplorable. His present distress, and the upbraidings of conscience for the impropriety of his conduct, overwhelmed him with affliction, which soon put a period to his life.

Bolland's character was now become so notorious, that he judged it prudent to alter his mode of proceeding for some time; and therefore he had recourse to the following practices.

In consideration of being handsomely gratified, he provided bail for persons who were under arrest; and, when he knew that the persons whom he himself arrested were not in desperate circumstances, he frequently released them, after exacting money from them, and the promise to surrender if they could not compromise matters with their creditors. He applied to these people to become bail for others, who paid him in proportion to the sums for which they were arrested; and, circumstanced as they

they were, it was seldom that he met a refusal; for, upon their making the least hesitation, he threatened to take them into custody, and convey them instantly to prison.

He provided genteel apparel for Jews, and other men in desperate circumstances, and encouraged them to commit perjury, by bribing them to swear themselves house-keepers and men of property, in order that their bail might be admitted.

Having supplied two men of most profligate characters, with genteel cloaths, they attended him to Westminster-hall, and there justified bail for sums to a considerable amount, though they were not possessed of property to the value of twenty shillings. After the business, these three infamous associates adjourned to a tavern in Covent-garden; and, while they were regaling themselves, some of Sir John Fielding's officers took the two men who had justified bail into custody, on a charge of highway robbery. They were convicted at the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey; and soon afterwards Bolland, being a sheriff's-officer, attended them to Tyburn, where they were hanged in the apparel that he had provided for them.

A publican in Cecil-street in the Strand, named Wilkinson, went into Lancashire in the year 1768, upon a visit to his relations, leaving the care of his house to a female servant. Upon the landlord's return, he found that two men had taken possession of his household goods and stock of liquors, under a warrant of distress. He asked by what authority they had made a seizure of his effects; and the reply was, that, if he presumed to dispute their authority, they would knock out his brains, or put him to death in some other manner.

Wilkinson made application to Justice Kynaston, and made an affidavit that Bolland had no legal claim upon him. A warrant was granted for the recovery of Wilkinson's goods; but before it could be put into execution, the greatest part of them had been moved from the premises.

The following day Bolland caused Wilkinson to be arrested for five hundred and fifty pounds, which was falsely alledged to be a debt he had some time before contracted. The unfortunate Wilkinson, being unable to procure bail for so considerable a sum, moved himself to the King's-bench. The attorney employed by Wilkinson was an accomplice of Bolland's; and, under pretence of defending him against the machinations of that accomplished villain, he extorted from him his last shilling; and after the unhappy man had suffered a long imprisonment, in a most deplorable state of poverty, he was restored to liberty by virtue of an act of insolvency.

In the preceding part of this narrative we have mentioned that Bolland formed a connexion with a fellow-prisoner in the Fleet, through whose interest bondsmen were procured, when he a second time commenced Officer to the Sheriff of Middlesex. Learning some time after that this man had apartments elegantly furnished in the neighbourhood of Gray's-inn, he falsely swore a debt against him; and, in conjunction with one of his accomplices, who was a lawyer, sued out a judgment, and obtained a warrant of distress for the seizure of his effects, which were conveyed to Bolland's house. The injured party applied to the court of King's-bench for redress; and attachments were issued against the delinquents; but before they could take effect, the attorney had absconded, and Bolland was
in

in custody, charged with the capital offence for which he suffered; and therefore no redress was to be obtained.

A captain in the navy going a voyage, and not leaving his wife sufficiently provided with money, she contracted a debt to the amount of thirty pounds, for which she gave a note. The note not being paid when it became due, the creditor ordered Bolland to serve a writ upon the unhappy woman. After she had remained some days a prisoner in his house, he procured bail for her, on her paying him five guineas.

In a few days she was again taken into custody, Bolland urging, that, upon making enquiry into her affairs, the bail deemed themselves not secure, and had surrendered her, from motives of prudence. Terrified at the ideas of going to prison, she paid him ten guineas for procuring bail a second time; but he insisted on having a bond to confess judgment, for the furniture of her house, as a collateral security. Being ignorant of the nature of the security proposed, she complied with the terms offered by the villain, who, on the following day, entered up judgment, and took possession of her effects.

Upon discovering that she had been made a dupe to the consummate art and villainy of Bolland, the unfortunate woman was driven nearly to distraction, and, while in that state of mind, she attempted to set fire to the house, in consequence of which a warrant was granted for apprehending her, and she was committed to Newgate.

In a short time the husband returned to England; and Bolland bribed an infamous woman to swear a false debt against him; in consequence of which he was arrested, and being in confinement at the time

of his wife's trial at the Old Bailey, she was deprived of that assistance he might have afforded her. She was convicted, and sentenced to suffer death; but her cause being espoused by a number of humane persons, they drew up an authentic state of her case, which was presented to the king, who was graciously pleased to grant her an unconditional pardon.

Bolland formed a connexion with a prostitute, towards whom a sailor, then abroad, entertained a strong attachment. Upon the sailor's return, he gave three hundred pounds into the care of the woman, proposing at the same time to espouse her, and saying, he meant to take a public-house in Wapping. The woman communicated the sailor's proposal to Bolland, and they formed a plan of defrauding him of his money. By Bolland's direction, she intimated to him, that three hundred pounds was not a sum sufficient to carry on the trade of a publican with a prospect of success, and advised him to leave the money he had already acquired to her care, and make another voyage. The unsuspecting seaman complied; and in a short time after he had sailed, Bolland got the three hundred pounds into his possession, and applied it to his own use.

Bolland's behaviour to the woman was for some time exceedingly kind; but he at length procured a fellow to charge her with a false debt; and being taken to prison, she survived only a short time, during which she laboured under the severest afflictions of poverty and disease.

The sailor, having completed his voyage, no sooner landed in England than he hastened to the house where his mistress had resided; and having learnt the particulars of her conduct, vexation

ation and disappointment had such an effect upon his mind, that the recovery of his reason was, for a long time, judged to be doubtful.

Bolland being ordered, by an attorney in the city, to serve a writ on a colonel in his Majesty's service for one hundred pounds, he arrested the gentleman the next day, and was paid the debt and costs; but, instead of delivering the money for the plaintiff's use, he declared that he had not served the writ. The attorney, however, soon learning that the debt was discharged, commenced a suit against the sheriffs; and the persons who had become sureties for Bolland were compelled to pay the hundred pounds, with full costs.

The colonel had neglected to take Bolland's receipt; and of this circumstance the villain determined to avail himself. He, a second time, arrested the gentleman for a hundred pounds: the action was bailed; and a trial ensued, in the course of which a witness swore, that he was present when the colonel paid Bolland an hundred pounds, and costs, in discharge of the writ. Hereupon the Jury pronounced in favour of the colonel.

Though Bolland's character was notorious throughout the kingdom, he might, perhaps, have continued his depredations much longer, had not many of his most infamous practices been exposed in the news-papers, by the person whom we have already mentioned his having contracted an acquaintance with in the Fleet, and whose effects he seized in the neighbourhood of Gray's-inn, under a warrant of distress, obtained by swearing to a false debt.

When the sheriffs were informed of Bolland's villainy, they were highly exasperated against him, and suspended him from acting as their officer,
and

and assigned the bail-bonds as security, by which the parties he had injured might obtain some recompence.

Bolland's avarice was so excessive, and his inclination to villainy so strong, that his being deprived of the power of following his usual practices, proved the source of much uneasiness. He was advised to act under the Marshalsea court; but he rejected the proposal, alledging that a compliance would *degrade* his character, after having long moved in so superior a line of life.

The office of upper city-marshal becoming vacant by the decease of Osmond Cook, Esquire, Bolland determined to dispose of part of his infamously acquired property in the purchase thereof. The place being put up for sale by auction, he became the purchaser for two thousand four hundred pounds. Having paid the deposit-money, which was lodged in the chamberlain's office, he anxiously waited for the approbation of the court of aldermen, which was only wanting to give him that power over the citizens which he was pre-determined to abuse.

A letter was addressed to the Lord-mayor and court of aldermen, exhibiting Bolland's character in all its horrid deformity; and proper enquiries being made, the facts appeared to be well-founded; in consequence of which the court of aldermen refused him the place, and ordered the chamberlain to return the deposit-money.

He declared that he would commence a suit at law against the court of aldermen for the recovery of damages; and when the recorder communicated to him the very strong reasons that had induced the court to deem him unqualified for the place of city-marshal,

marshal, he behaved in a manner extremely reprehensible.

To contest the matter with the city he found not likely to produce him any advantage; and one of the serjeants at mace at that time resigning his office, he formed the resolution of purchasing his place, which was denied him, though he offered a sum considerably above the usual price.

The deposit-money still remained in the chamberlain's-office, under an attachment taken out by his sureties, on account of their bail-bonds being assigned over for the benefit of the persons who had suffered through his iniquitous proceedings.

A man named Jesson had discounted a note for Bolland; some time after which they casually met at the George and Vulture tavern in Cornhill, when the former desired the note might be redeemed. The other said he then happened to be short of cash, but produced a note of hand for an hundred pounds, given by Mr. Bradshaw, offering to take up the other note, if Jesson would take Bradshaw's security, and return the overplus. To this Jesson agreed; and while he was counting the money, Bolland endorsed the note; which being observed by the other, he said he had no doubt as to the responsibility of Bradshaw, but that Bolland's name would render the note unnegotiable. Hereupon Bolland took a knife, and crazed all the letters of his surname, excepting the first, and in their room inserted *anks*; after which he delivered the note to Jesson.

On the following day Jesson requested a person, named Cardineaux, to discount the note he had received from Bolland; and Cardineaux paid him fifteen pounds ten shillings on account, desiring him to call the next day for the balance.

The next Saturday, Cardineaux, Jeffon, and Bolland, met at a tavern in Queen-street; when Cardineaux questioning Bolland respecting *Banks*, the name endorsed upon the note; he said Banks was a victualler, in the neighbourhood of Rathbone-place, in an extensive and reputable way of business. Cardineaux, saying he was fully satisfied, paid Jeffon the balance in his favour, in some small notes, and a draught upon his banker.

Cardineaux, having occasion for cash, carried the note to his banker, who discounted it; and soon after Bradshaw was declared a bankrupt. Cardineaux now applied to Jeffon, desiring that, as Bradshaw had failed, he would provide money to take up the note when it became due: Jeffon had recourse to Bolland; but he refused to take up the note, and even denied that Jeffon had received it of him.

Cardineaux, Jeffon, and Bolland, met at the Edinburgh coffee-house the next day, when the former introduced a conversation respecting Bradshaw's note; in the course of which Bolland said, that his endorsement did not appear upon the note, and that it had not passed through his hands. Upon this Cardineaux said Jeffon had mentioned his having altered the endorsement from Bolland to Banks: and Bolland then desired all disputes might subside, and promised that the note should be discharged when it became due.

The note was delivered to a person named Morris, who shewed it to a gentleman of the law, and related to him the particulars of Bolland's conduct; in consequence of which a prosecution was resolved on.

Bolland being apprehended, a man was sent, in the name of Banks, to carry the money to Cardineaux, who gave a receipt for it, telling him that
the

the note he had to redeem was in the possession of Morris, and would be detained in order to be produced at the Old Bailey as evidence against Bolland.

The prisoner being brought to trial, his council exerted their utmost abilities to prove that he had not committed forgery; but the jury found him guilty of the indictment. When sentence of death had been pronounced against him, the Recorder pathetically exhorted him to employ the short time he had to live in preparing for eternity, and not to deceive himself in the expectation of a pardon, which there was not the slightest reason to suppose would be granted.

His behaviour in Newgate was decent, and he was treated with great humanity by the keeper of that prison, who, upon his complaint of being incommoded by the great weight of his iron, ordered it to be changed for one lighter. After condemnation he was daily attended by the ordinary, to whom he acknowledged that he had been guilty of great wickedness: but he endeavoured to excuse himself on the score of imposing upon the persons he arrested, urging that the sums he received he considered as fees which men of his profession had a right to expect in acknowledgment of civility shewn to prisoners.

He continued to entertain strong hopes of a pardon, even till the time of learning that the warrant was issued for his execution; but for obtaining it he pursued measures exceedingly improper. He caused a paper to be presented to the King, wherein he falsely represented his case, and alledged that he was innocent of the fact for which he was condemned to suffer death. This false state of his case he published in the news-papers; and procured

copies of it to be distributed among the ministers of state, representatives in parliament, and other persons of influence.

Copies of the different papers that Bolland had circulated were submitted to the consideration of Lord North; and when the Recorder made a report to his Majesty of the convicts under sentence of death in Newgate, he was very particularly examined as to the evidence adduced on the trial of Bolland; and his answers were so clear and satisfactory, that Bolland was included in the warrant for execution.

He attended divine service in the chapel the morning of his execution, and received the sacrament with an appearance of earnest devotion. He was accompanied to the fatal spot by a methodist preacher, and his behaviour was decent and composed. He acknowledged that he had been guilty of innumerable sins, but declared that the fact for which he was to die was not committed with a view to defraud. Observing Mr. Wilkinson (whom he had ruined in the manner we have already related) among the crowd, he desired he would approach the cart, and begged his forgiveness, which was cordially granted; soon after which he suffered the sentence of the law.

The body of this malefactor was taken to Highgate in a hearse; and in the evening carried to an undertaker's in Prince's-street, Drury-lane, whence it was conveyed to Bunhill-fields for interment.

James Bolland was executed at Tyburn on the 18th of March, 1772.

Every generous breast will rise with indignation on the perusal of this narrative. To oppress those already sinking under the weight of misfortunes, is
a species



James Bolland,
Executed for FORGERY.



a species of villainy of the most enormous kind. Bolland was guilty of innumerable crimes for which no punishment that the law had power to inflict would have been too severe; and suffered at length for a fact which (though a daring insult to the law) was perhaps (according to his dying declaration) not committed with an injurious intention. Hence, however, we may learn the danger of violating those institutions that are formed for the protection of individuals, and the good order of society. Be it remembered, that such actions as will not bear the test of conscience, must prove offensive to that Almighty Being, before whose dread tribunal we must all appear, to receive the award that Infinite Wisdom shall apportion to our virtues and demerits.



A full Account of the Life, extraordinary Proceedings, Trial, Conviction, and Execution of JONATHAN BRITAIN, who was hanged at *Bristol* for *Forgery*.

THE case of Britain was so extraordinary in itself, and so much the subject of public conversation, that we shall be the more particular in laying a full and complete narrative of it before our readers.

This offender was a native of a village near Thirsk, in the county of York. His parents were poor people, not able to give him a liberal education: but they sent him to school for some time, till he had learned to read and write, and had made himself master of the common rules of arithmetic; but it was not in their power to advance him

him farther in learning: however, having a natural propensity to the acquirement of knowledge, he, without the assistance of a master, made a great proficiency in the sciences of astronomy and algebra; and qualified himself to teach the mathematics to young gentlemen.

Having had the misfortune to break his arm when a boy, and a weakness continuing in it for a considerable time afterwards, his parents sent him to York to an attorney, whom he was to serve as an errand-boy; but he had not been long in this station, before his master discovered such uncommon marks of genius and ability in him, that he articulated him as a clerk, and took him into his office.

Happy would it have been for Britain, if he could have been contented in this creditable situation; but an impatience of restraint induced him to leave a master who had behaved to him with so much civility.

He had not, however, been long out of place, when the master of a public academy employed him as a teacher of the mathematics, for which his own studies had well qualified him; and he was promoted to be principal usher in the school.

In this situation he was as restless as in the former; and therefore quitted it, and entered as a soldier in the tenth regiment of dragoons. As he was a man of remarkably fine appearance; as his behaviour was graceful in a high degree, and his accomplishments greatly superior to the generality of those in his rank of life, he was taken great notice of by his officers, who paid such attention to him as very much flattered his vanity, and inducing him to rival his superiors in point of expence, his circumstances were soon greatly reduced,
and

and he had recourse to the art of chicane to support his extravagance.

In these reduced circumstances he committed a variety of frauds, most of them of so artful contrivance as to elude all possibility of detection. He had a custom of introducing himself into the company of persons who had no suspicion of deceit, and then he would so far insinuate himself into their good opinion, as to take undue advantage of their unsuspecting honesty.

The following will serve as one proof of this disposition. A gentleman named Peachy having informed Britain that he had a law-suit depending, the latter told him that he was an attorney, and under that pretence defrauded him of forty pounds. But no sum that he could obtain by his irregularity was equal to the support of his unbounded extravagance.

Soon after this he married the young widow of a serjeant in the same regiment in which he served, and deserting from the army, he repaired with his wife to Bristol, where soon becoming reduced to circumstances of absolute distress, he made application to a gentleman who kept an academy in that city, desiring to be employed in teaching the mathematics. The gentleman was in no want of an assistant at that time, but he engaged him for a while, in mere pity to his distressed situation; and afterwards recommended him to a gentleman, who had a considerable property in the West India islands, as a proper person to be overseer of his plantations.

This was an engagement too flattering to be rejected by a person in Britain's circumstances, and he accordingly embraced it; and articles were drawn up between him and his intended employer;
but

but when these articles were ready to be signed by Britain, his wife prevailed on him not to put his hand to them, the consequence of which was, that he lost his engagement, and the friendship of his intended employer.

This very imprudent refusal reduced him to great distress; for the master of the academy was now no longer his friend. Thus situated, he enlisted as a soldier in two different regiments on the same day, though he was at that very time a deserter from a third: but a gentleman, compassionating his situation, paid money to release him from both these engagements.

After this he became an usher to another academy in Bristol; and his next employment was that of a land-surveyor, at a place called Wrinton in Somersetshire. His several engagements took place with rapid succession after each other; and in his last situation he might have been exceedingly happy, had not an extravagant and restless disposition defeated all his better prospects. He could not settle in any regular employment, for his expences were always more than proportioned to his income.

Reduced to circumstances of great distress, he was tempted to the commission of forgery, a crime that scarce ever leaves the perpetrator even a chance of escape. Having forged several drafts, he passed them at Bristol, and then repaired to London, in fear of detection. On his arrival in the metropolis, he wrote several letters to the King, intimating that he had been concerned in setting fire to the dock-yard at Portsmouth.

No regard being paid to these letters to his Majesty, he wrote to the Lord Mayor, declaring that he was ready to surrender himself, and make
a dis-

a discovery of his accomplices, on the condition that his pardon should be promised in an advertisement in the London Gazette.

No immediate notice was taken of this letter; on which this extraordinary man went into Saint James's Park, with a pistol concealed under his coat, and copies of some threatening letters in his pocket: in this manner he followed the King from the Queen's palace to St. James's, not, as it was presumed, with a view to injure his Sovereign, but to give an air of plausibility to the tale which he intended to invent respecting the fire at Portsmouth.

At length a pardon to any accomplice was advertised in the Gazette: on which Britain went to Reading to meet his wife, in consequence of a previous agreement; but on the very evening of his arrival in that town he offered some forged drafts in payment; the consequence of which was that he was apprehended, and lodged in gaol.

During his imprisonment at Reading, he wrote a number of letters, which he contrived to transmit to distant parts of the kingdom; the contents of which intimated that he should be rescued, and many persons gave credit to the insinuations contained in these letters, but the whole turned out to be only a species of fraud and forgery.

There was something so remarkable in Britain's proceedings, that the under secretaries of state went to Reading to examine him; but they could make nothing of his tale, the whole of which served only to convince them that he had no real discovery to make: in consequence of which they left him, for the law to decide on his other offences,

Disappointed in this scheme, Britain had recourse to another, if possible more extraordinary. He wrote letters, which he caused to be inserted in some of the news-papers, in which he charged lord Mansfield, and the earls of Halifax and Faulconbridge, together with other persons of rank, with having been bribed by the court of France, “to encourage the setting fire to the dock-yard at “Portsmouth.”

Improbable as this story was, many people gave a temporary attention to it, and some even affected to believe it; but it was too absurd to obtain credit for any considerable time. It was a little unlucky for Britain’s device, that he charged lord Faulconbridge with being of the Roman catholic persuasion, though the contrary was known to be the fact. The absurdity of this story soon caused it to be treated with the contempt that it deserved.

At the next assizes for the county of Berks a bill of indictment for forgery was preferred against Britain, but thrown out by the grand jury, on what they considered as defective evidence; and his discharge would have ensued of course, but that three detainers were lodged against him, which kept him in prison at Reading till he was removed to Bristol by a writ of Habeas Corpus.

The keeper of the prison at Reading having shewed very few signs of lenity towards him, he expressed himself agreeably surprized by the superior humanity of the master of the gaol at Bristol, whose kindness appeared to have a very visible effect on the mind of the prisoner.

Britain was now visited by numbers of people, who from motives of curiosity wished to enquire into the validity of the tale he had invented respecting the fire: but they could make no satisfactory

tory discoveries : they saw that the whole tale was a lie ; yet they contributed to his immediate support in a manner so liberal as to do honour to their humanity.

On the commencement of the sessions, he was arraigned on several indictments for forgery ; but being put to the bar, he refused to plead, and held in his hand the Gazette which contained the offer of pardon, insisting that he had “ given information against his accomplices who had set fire to “ the dock-yard at Portsmouth.”

On this he was informed by the Recorder, that he could take no notice of the proclamation inserted in the Gazette : but Britain, instead of paying attention to this declaration, threw the Gazette upon the table where the clerk sat, and declared that a scheme was formed to deprive him of life contrary to the due course of law.

Hereupon the Recorder mentioned a late act of parliament, by which he would be deemed guilty, if he refused to plead to the indictment : but the magistrate did not chuse to proceed on the trial, without being in possession of the act in question ; on which a special messenger was sent to London, to procure the act if it could be had in print. or otherwise to bring an attested copy of it from the Record-office.

The messenger returning with the act of parliament in print at the end of two days, Britain was again brought to his trial, when he pleaded not guilty to the indictment. The Recorder would have allowed him council, but he refused all such kind of assistance, and determined to plead for himself. He cross-examined the witnesses in a manner that gave sufficient testimony of his abilities ; but the evidence against him was such as not to

admit of a doubt of his guilt; in consequence of which he was capitally convicted, and sentenced to die.

Before the passing the dreadful sentence of the law, the Recorder addressed him in the most pathetic terms; informed him that he had no reason to expect an interposition of the Royal mercy, and entreated him to make every possible preparation for the ignominious fate that awaited him.

After this unhappy man had received sentence of death, he seemed to abandon himself to despair, and was, in all respects, in a most horrid state of mind. A gentleman of Bristol, being made acquainted with his very unhappy situation, wrote a letter to him; of which the following is a faithful abridgement.

In the first place, he represented that his own anxiety to promote his eternal happiness gave rise to that letter, which being dictated by motives of the purest and most disinterested regard, he hoped that all due attention would be paid to its contents. The writer then proceeded in the following manner: "You have now passed your trial, and every
 " chance for life is over.—You are sentenced to
 " die—to die! O my God, how soon! In three
 " short weeks you must bid adieu to this life,
 " amidst the solemnities of a public execution.
 " Then the secrets of the invisible world will be
 " made known to you, and you must commence
 " an existence in everlasting and inconceivable
 " torments, or eternal glory.—You are sensible,
 " Mr. Britain, that there is a God, and that he
 " will arraign you at his tribunal for all your sins
 " against him; and that there will be no possibility
 " of escaping his wrath, if you depart hence with—
 " out

“ out obtaining his mercy. Let this one thing
 “ engage your attention day and night.”

After these commendable advices and exhortations, the letter-writer proceeds as follows:—“ You
 “ have brought upon yourself the abhorrence of
 “ your fellow-creatures, and procured a scandalous death,—You are laden with fetters—in
 “ prison—and left to all the bitterness of reflection!—Your crimes are many, and heinous
 “ against God and man.—Your poor soul is deeply wounded with your sins, and your heart, I
 “ hope, sinks within you! Ah poor unhappy Britain! see your sad condition; your soul exposed
 “ to endless misery! What will or can you do?”

After this solemn and pathetic address, the writer represented to him the superior excellency of the Christian religion, as it is developed in the holy scriptures: he advised him not to flatter himself with the hope of that pardon which he had no reason to expect, and entreated him to apply himself to reading and prayer, and to keep only religious company, as the most proper methods of preparing himself for the awful state that awaited him.

This benevolent writer concluded his letter in the following terms:—“ Let me advise you to
 “ keep yourself from idle company; be as much
 “ alone as possible; converse about nothing that
 “ does not concern your better part;—think
 “ how short your time is; consider the important
 “ business you should be engaged in, and set about
 “ it in the fear of God—and with a firm resolution;
 “ and, as the strongest motive to all this, ponder
 “ upon eternity, think of its duration! May its
 “ miseries alarm your fears and diligence, and its
 “ glories excite your desires.”

The accounts transmitted to us say, that Britain had been educated in the Roman catholic persuasion; and indeed this appears to have been the fact, for, in answer to the letter above mentioned, he sent to the writer, informing him, that he would have no concern with any one of his faith:—but this resolution did not hold him long; since, soon after dispatching his messenger, he sent a letter to the gentleman, of which the following is a copy.

SIR,—“ Sorry I am to think that I rejected you (God’s servant) this morning. My soul is troubled, my spirits fail, my conscience tells me I have done amiss. Oh! for Christ’s sake, forgive my stubbornness, forget my naughty answer, and come and administer comfort to a poor afflicted soul, whose appearance must be before the Lord in a short time.—My case is desperate; my time is short; and my sins are many, many indeed! The grief and horrors of a poor afflicted soul, are not easily conceived; and every temporal advantage seems only to encrease my misery. Your compliance with my request will, I hope, through the blessing of God, afford me some relief.”

The gentleman had no sooner received this letter than he attended the unhappy man, with a sincere wish to afford him all the consolation in his power. Britain received him in a very proper manner, paying all respect to his person and function: but said he was concerned that he had requested his company, as he was resolved, for the short remainder of his life, to adhere to the doctrines of the church of Rome. The reasons he alledged for this perseverance were, that the Protestants were enthusiasts, and that no confidence could be placed in the clergy of that church.

The benevolent visitor easily comprehended that Britain was greatly distressed in his mind, and used every argument in his power to console him. He begged that he would mention the objections that he had to his visiting him, and hoped he might give such answers as might be satisfactory to the unhappy man.

Britain expressed his thanks in a handsome manner, but begged to decline the proposed visits, saying that he was resolved to pursue his own scheme. The visitor demanding what this scheme was, the unhappy man answered "morality."

A conference now ensued on the subject of morality, in which the gentleman endeavoured to convince Britain that his time in this life would be too short to form himself to the first habits of morality; and that, if he could do so, it was impossible for him to atone for the sins of his past life.

The gentleman further urged the necessity of an immediate and unfeigned repentance, without which he could not expect the mercy of God.

He took pains to explain to him the nature of the gospel dispensation, and quoted the following and other texts for his encouragement. "Who-
"soever cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast
"out:—Seek, and ye shall find; ask, and it shall
"be given."

Britain seemed to be attentive to these pious exhortations, but not to be convinced by them. In particular he said, that when he attempted to pray, he was so confused in his mind, and felt such remorse of conscience for the enormities of his past life, that he knew not how to sustain the load of affliction with which he was oppressed. His benevolent friend now told him that he had paid the visit with the most disinterested wish to promote his

his happiness, and desired him to think how that might be most effectually promoted, and the peace of his mind restored; adding, with a generous benevolence of mind, “I would rather see you die a good Papist, than not be of any religion whatever.” He even went farther than this; he advised him to send for a priest, if he thought his own arguments had no weight.

This amazed Britain, who had no idea that a Protestant could be influenced by such liberality of sentiment, and would fain have entered into debate on the comparative merits of the Protestant and Popish faith; but this the gentleman wished to decline, observing that the short remains of his life ought to be spent in the practice of devotion.

In answer hereto, Britain said that the matter was of the highest consequence to him, for he believed in the doctrine of purgatory, and in the propriety of an invocation to saints; whereas the Protestants, unreasonably as he conceived, were averse to both. Britain’s words were as follow: “You will not pray to departed saints, and yet you solicit the prayers of each other, and you know that you are neither so pure or holy as they. Your objections to purgatory are still weaker, for they contradict that passage in the holy scripture, where the apostle Peter establisheth it, 1st Peter, chap. III. ver. 19. I should be glad to know what you have to say to these particulars.”

In reply hereto, the gentleman remarked, that St. Paul, in his epistle to Timothy, enjoined us to pray for each other, when he directs that “prayers and supplications should be made for all men;” but (said he) for poor fallen men to assume the office of a mediator, it is condemned in scripture,

“ture, where we are told that there is but one
“mediator between God and man, the man Christ
“Jesus.”

The gentleman farther remarked on the reasonableness of our praying for each other, as it was a proof of the pity that we entertained for our mutual frailties, and tended to conciliate that affection which is the honour of our nature. He likewise observed, that though we might pray for our fellow creatures, we could not effectually serve them without their own assisting endeavours; and therefore it was ridiculous for a person to neglect his own duty, in the confidence of a blessing to be granted in consequence of the prayers of others. The gentleman's farther remarks are comprized in the following words:

“You see how this duty, properly explained,
“is consistent with reason and the authority of
“scripture; whereas the addresses that are made
“to departed souls are hazardous and dangerous.
“They are hazardous, as departed souls may be
“in some region distant from our atmosphere; or,
“if it could be ascertained that they are conversant with mortals, yet they cannot every-where
“be attentive to the petitions which are presented
“to them, unless we admit of their omnipresence,
“which would be to commence Heathens, and
“rob God of one of his most glorious attributes.
“Add to all this, that the scriptures altogether dis-
“countenance it, and direct us to trust only in
“God. It is, therefore, much safer to trust in his
“power and goodness, who is the same yesterday,
“to-day, and for ever; than to rely on the mediation of those, who have obtained an inheritance in heaven thro' the merits of Christ.

“Your

“ Your notions of purgatory are altogether un-
 “ scriptural, as the very text you bring in proof
 “ of it shall evince. St. Peter is there speaking of
 “ the spirit which quickened, or raised Christ from
 “ the dead, and assures us, that by the same spirit
 “ he went in the days of Noah, long before he
 “ assumed our nature, and preached unto the
 “ spirits in prison, meaning either the spirits im-
 “ prisoned in the body, or fast bound in trespasses
 “ and sins.

“ That this must be the sense of the text will
 “ appear quite clear, when we recollect that in the
 “ day of judgment men will be tried for the deeds
 “ done in the body ; consequently when the spirit
 “ returns to God, every-thing remains fixed till the
 “ great re-union, when the final sentence will be
 “ given, according to the deeds done in the body,
 “ whether they be good or evil.

“ Now, though I oppose purgatory, yet I ad-
 “ mit of an intermediate state ; and I believe that
 “ happy spirits in that state are waiting for the
 “ consummation of glory. But this cannot afford
 “ you any benefit, if you quit this world without
 “ the necessary qualification for it, I mean peace
 “ with God.”

When the gentleman had concluded what he
 had to say, he proposed to pray with the unhappy
 convict, which was consented to after some hesi-
 tation ; but yet Britain behaved with the utmost
 decency, and they parted as soon as the devotions
 were ended.

The benevolent friend visited the unfortunate
 man on the following day, agreeable to his own
 desire, and was happy to find him more composed
 in mind than he had been, though he was not yet
 resigned to the deplorable fate that awaited him,

nor convinced of his errors by the arguments that had been used.

The subject of their discourse on this occasion was the necessity of obtaining the favour of God, to prevent the certainty of eternal punishment. Britain seemed pleased with this subject, observing that it made him look with horror on the sins of his past life, and fitted his mind to pray for the pardon of his crimes.

The kind visitor now enquired if the Roman catholic priest should be admitted. Britain expressed his desire to have one conversation with him on the important subject. The gentleman said that the visit should be made if it was at his earnest request; but when he visited the convict on the following day, and found that his view was to obtain absolution for his sins, he represented to him the absurdity of a practice that could tend only “to fill the mind
“with a false confidence, and make people believe
“that they are objects of the divine favour, when
“they are enemies to God, and strangers to the
“truth of the everlasting gospel.”

The unhappy convict now begged an explanation of the following words in the gospel of St. John, chap. xx. ver. 23. “Whosoever sins ye
“remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever
“sins ye retain, they are retained.”

To this the gentleman replied, that the preaching the remission of sins to those who repented, and believed in Jesus Christ, was a duty enforced on the apostles, but that it was not in their power to remit sins, which could be only the consequence of repentance, and faith in Christ. He added, that the Apostles were said to retain sins when the auditors of their doctrine neither believed nor repented; but that the remission of the sins of an im-

penitent unbeliever was never once mentioned in the New Testament.

This answer did not satisfy Britain; on which his generous friend said farther, that "supposing the apostles had an absolute power to forgive sins, yet he could not, with the least shadow of reason, say that one of their priests had the same power, unless he could give such proofs thereof as the apostles did."

He farther urged that it would be an insult offered to Almighty God for one sinner to pretend to pardon another, the forgiveness of sins being a power lodged only with the supreme Being.

Britain acknowledged that there was some force in these arguments; yet such was the prejudice of education that he would not yield to their weight. His friend having left him, he was visited by the Romish priest, the keeper of the prison being present. Nothing material passed at this visit, other than a promise of a second on the succeeding Monday, when it was agreed that the priest should take his confession.

The two following days being Saturday and Sunday, Britain was visited by his friend, who found him much disturbed in mind, and anxious for the visit of the priest, to absolve him from his sins. On this the humane visitor exerted himself more than ever to explain the sacred doctrines of christianity; so that Britain at length began to have a clear conception of what had hitherto been matter of doubt and obscurity.

When the Romish priest came on the Monday morning, Britain declined accepting his visit; and, when the friend, who had been so anxious to serve his most essential interests, waited on him some hours afterwards, he was amazed at the happy
change

change of disposition that had taken place in the mind of the convict.

Henceforward Britain appeared not to dread the inevitable stroke of death. He employed his time in the most exemplary devotion, being continually reading or singing divine hymns; and confessed the justice of the sentence by which he had been condemned, saying that it would be the happy means of promoting his eternal felicity.

An undertaker coming to take measure of him to make his coffin*, he evinced no kind of concern; and on the sight of it he surveyed it with the utmost calmness, and even with a smiling countenance, as that of a man who had got above the fear of death.

On the day before he was executed he received the sacrament, with every mark of unfeigned penitence and devotion; expressed the utmost hope of pardon, through the merits of the Redeemer of mankind, and appeared highly grateful for the benefit of the gospel revelation.

On the evening preceding his death his ever-generous friend visited him, and begged that he would endeavour to compose himself to sleep, as a refreshment to his disturbed mind; but he replied in the following remarkable words:-- "God forbid! — I have spent many nights, as well as
" days, to the dishonour of God, and destruction
" of my soul; but this, my last night, shall be
" spent in praising that God, from whom alone I
" expect to find mercy."

* One would think the ceremony of measuring a man on so solemn an occasion might be dispensed with. How easy would it be for a friend to give intimation of his height and size, and for a coffin to be provided accordingly?

Britain having injured a particular person, desired to see him, to beg his pardon : — the other attended, but treated him in the most insulting manner ; yet the prisoner bore his insults in a way becoming his unhappy situation.

Britain took a solemn leave of his fellow-prisoners on the morning of his execution, telling them that he must prepare for his approaching dissolution. At this time he was visited by his friend so often mentioned, who seemed generously determined to attend him to the last fatal moment. When his irons were knocked off in the lodge of the prison, and his arms bound back with a halter, as is customary on these solemn occasions, he surveyed himself in a looking-glass, and said, “ Britain ! thou wast
“ never so happily arrayed in all thy life.”

A short time before his execution he signed a paper, importing that what he had said respecting the fire at Portsmouth was mere invention of his own, with a view to screen himself from punishment for the various crimes that he had committed.

Britain’s zealous friend attended the clergyman who went with him to the place of execution, where the malefactor made a long speech to the surrounding multitude, concluding his address in the following terms : “ Let the righteous rejoice ;
“ let the sinner take warning, young or old, the
“ young especially ; — see what sin has done for
“ poor Britain ! and see in me what God can do
“ for poor sinners ! Let this encourage you to
“ return to him.”

The friends of the malefactor having prayed with him, and taken a last solemn farewell of him, he was left to his own private devotions, and then turned off, on a signal given, which had been agreed on between him and the executioner.

Jonathan

Jonathan Britain was hanged at Bristol on the 15th of May, 1772.

After the very particular account given of this malefactor, it cannot be necessary to make any tedious remarks on his case. People of common sense will judge of him as a madman, rendered so by the enormity of his crimes; and will pity him in proportion as they may deem him an object of compassion.

The generosity of the gentleman who attended him in the last stages of his life is worthy of the highest praise; but that gentleman does not seem to have adverted to the doubtfulness attending a presumed sudden conviction from one religious faith to another.—But it is time to quit this subject. Let all our hopes center in the expectation of that eternal felicity, in which there is no distinction of religion, when we shall all join in the praises of that God who is equally the protector of the devout of all denominations.



An Account of the Cases of SAMUEL ROBERTS and THOMAS BACCHUS, who were hanged at *Tyburn* for *High Treason*, in counterfeiting the current Coin of this Realm.

THE first mentioned of these malefactors was a native of Shrewsbury. He was descended of parents of very fair character, but in circumstances rather contracted; however, they gave him what education was in their power, and then apprenticed him to a baker.

After

After the expiration of the term of his apprenticeship, he repaired to the metropolis, and laboured as a journeyman with different masters for a considerable time, still supporting the character of an industrious and honest man. Some friends, observing the goodness of his disposition, advanced him money, with which he took a shop in Gray's-inn-lane, and met with such success in business as rewarded his assiduity.

At length, very unhappily for himself, he became acquainted with the father of Bacchus, from the casual meeting him at a public house. Soon after their acquaintance the old man advised him to remove into Southwark, where he said an excellent house and shop offered for his accommodation. Roberts being married, and having four children, listened to this advice, in the hope of making a better provision for his family.

A very short time after his residence in Southwark, the elder Bacchus and his son, with some other people who were coiners, told Roberts that they would be ready to assist him with money on any emergency. It happened that, some little time afterwards, Roberts wanted some money to make up a bill due for flour, on which he mentioned the affair to the elder Bacchus, and he was immediately furnished with the requisite sum.

This circumstance had not long taken place, when the younger Bacchus informed Roberts that his father was out of town, and begged his assistance in coining, on the condition of which he should be amply supplied with such money as he might want.

Roberts hesitated for a while to comply with a scheme big with such evident destruction; but the prospect of gain becoming at length too strong for his

his more virtuous resolutions, he fatally consented, and ruin was the consequence. The nature of the partnership, for such it may be deemed, was this: Bacchus was generally the immediate coiner of the counterfeit money, which Roberts put off to unsuspecting people. They had imitated a variety of gold and silver coin, which was so well executed that it could hardly be distinguished from the real money made at the Tower; yet the adulteration was so great, that, in many pieces, the intrinsic value was not a fourth of the nominal.

Great part of this counterfeit money was put off at country-fairs, where the agents employed to dispose of it (for there were others besides Roberts) appeared as horse-dealers, and found several country tradesmen ready enough to traffic with them for this false coin.

The coiners used to sell this money by weight to the countrymen, who circulated it in the course of their connexions; so that the evil spread wide, to the injury of many an unfortunate individual.

In the interim Bacchus and Roberts lived in a very handsome manner on the profits of their iniquitous trade. Their neighbours could not conceive how they procured a subsistence; and it is possible that they might have continued their practices a considerable time longer, but that one of their accomplices gave such hints as led to the ready means of detecting them.

Some constables being employed to search the house, they found Bacchus with all the implements proper for coining, in the act of making counterfeit money, while Roberts was assisting him in this unlawful transaction; on which both the parties were taken into custody, and being carried
I before

before Sir John Fielding, that magistrate committed them to Newgate.

It may be now proper to mention that Bacchus was a native of the town of Stafford, and was, at a very early age, initiated into the art of coining by his father, who seems purposely to have trained him to the gallows. The younger Bacchus never followed any business but coining, except occasionally dealing in smuggled goods when he happened to have a considerable sum of money in his possession.

The prisoners remained in Newgate several months before they were brought to trial; but at length they were convicted on the clearest evidence, and sentenced to die.

The behaviour of Roberts after conviction was exceedingly well adapted to his unhappy situation. He was regular and devout in his attendance on religious duties, employed much time in reading books of devotion, and was regardful of the instructions given him by the ordinary of Newgate. On learning that the warrant for his execution was arrived, his seriousness and penitence appeared to be augmented, and he looked forward to eternity in the humble hope of the divine pardon.

Nor was the behaviour of Bacchus less regular, penitent, and devout. He made a decent preparation for his approaching death. The father of Bacchus had retired into the country, whence he sent his son a letter after condemnation, of which the following is a copy :

My dear Child,

I send you these few lines to comfort you; I should have sent you some money before, but I hope, my dear child, you will forgive me as you
hope

hope to be forgiven in heaven. There you will find a better father than you have found in me. Be as happy as you can;—you are going to happiness, and leave me behind to be miserable. I hope you will die happy, because you know you are innocent. Thou art now going; I shall soon follow thee. I hope you will meet your dear mother in heaven. As we shall soon part in this world, may my prayers be heard for you in heaven!

From your loving father till death,

WILLIAM BACCHUS.

P. S. My dear love to Roberts; and tell him, if it should be in my power to serve his family, I will; I shall think it a pleasure. May heaven receive you both!

The unhappy convicts received the holy sacrament on the morning of execution, and behaved in a manner suitable to their calamitous circumstances. They were drawn to the gallows on a sledge, as is usual in the case of coiners. They warned the multitude not to follow their evil example, and acknowledged the justice of that sentence by which they had been condemned to an ignominious death.

After the customary exercises of devotion, the prisoners underwent the final sentence of the law; and when the bodies had hung the usual time, they were delivered to their relations, in order that the bodies might be deposited with the parent earth.

Samuel Roberts and Thomas Bacchus were hanged at Tyburn on the 21st of May, 1772.

In the course of these volumes we have had frequent occasions to expatiate on the cases of coiners; but there is something singular in the affair before us. We see that the counterfeit money was sold by weight to people in the country, who

could be mean enough to make such purchases from avaricious motives, though they must know that their neighbours would be ultimately defrauded.

The younger Bacchus, though a professed coiner, appears to have been in some measure an object of pity. His father had trained him to the business from his early youth: but surely that father ought to be the general object of execration. It is difficult to form an idea of the aggravated guilt of that man who can wilfully train his own child to destruction. The paternal and the filial duty ought to be mutual: a failure on either side is usually fatal to the happiness of one of the parties.



Account of RICHARD MORGAN, who was executed for privately stealing Goods from his Master; with a Narrative of his Behaviour after Conviction.

THIS malefactor was a native of Ellesmere in Shropshire, descended of poor parents, whose virtuous characters were the greatest part of their possession. They bestowed on him as good an education as their circumstances would admit, and were careful to instruct him in the duties of religion. When he grew towards years of maturity, he entered into the service of a farmer in the neighbourhood, with whom he lived near three years with an unblemished reputation.

After this he engaged to serve other farmers in different parts of England, continuing to labour as a husbandman till he became almost two and twenty years

years of age, and then repaired to London, in order to obtain a subsistence by his honest endeavours.

He had not been long in town before he entered into the service of Mr. Hotchkin, a capital linen draper near Smithfield-bars. His principal business was to carry out parcels, and his behaviour was such, for a considerable time, as entitled him to the approbation of his master.

At length he was unfortunate enough to become acquainted with the servant of a distiller in the neighbourhood, who introduced him into a set of company which led to his ruin. Morgan had been hitherto remarkable for his sobriety; but a fatal change soon took place. The distiller's servant was one of a low alehouse club, of which Morgan became a member; and each of the company paid four-pence halfpenny for his evening's expences in beer and tobacco.

It was in this club that the first taint appears to have been given to Morgan's morals. Some of the company, who were chiefly porters, used to boast how considerably they defrauded their masters, and even mentioned the names of the parties to whom they sold the stolen effects.

For some time Morgan appeared shocked at the idea of obtaining money by such a violation of the laws of duty and integrity; and actually absented himself from the club; but at length the servant of the distiller prevailed on him to rejoin the company, which he did, but with a reserve in his own mind, that he would not be concerned in any of their iniquitous transactions.

These good resolutions, however, did not last any considerable time; for his companions, wishing him to enter into their practices, artfully took him to

the house of the man who received the stolen goods, where he saw such various articles which porters had stolen from their masters, and remained undetected, that he was but too easily induced to commence the illicit practice.

His mind being thus prepared for acts of dishonesty, he soon began to purloin his master's effects, which he stole in considerable quantities; and as Mr. Hotchkin had a very large stock, and dealt in the wholesale trade, the articles could not be easily missed, so that he had opportunity of continuing his depredations for a considerable space of time; and indeed, when the articles were at length missed, no one suspected Morgan to be the thief, as his character had been hitherto irreproachable, and his behaviour such as to entitle him to general respect.

His custom was to convey the stolen goods to a stable in Durham-yard, Chick-lane, where they were deposited till the usual purchaser came, and bought them, and carried them off.

Morgan's practices in this way were so considerable, that his companions of the club began to look on him as a proper agent for disposing of such goods as should be stolen by others; but this plan was defeated almost as soon as it was formed.

Mr. Hotchkin at length discovering that he had been robbed, and that the depredations had been frequently renewed, and observing that not any person had broken into his house, he concluded that the robber must be one who lived in the family.

In consequence hereof a person was appointed to watch the motions of Morgan; and on his going out he was followed to a house, whence he took
several

several parcels to an inn, to be carried by the Birmingham waggon.

Enquiry being made into the affair, it was discovered that Morgan had a considerable quantity of goods destined for the same place; and these being examined were found to be the property of Mr. Hotchkin, whose marks were on the several pieces; on which the offender was taken into custody, and carried before a magistrate. On his examination he denied the having been guilty of the crime alledged against him; but as the presumptive evidence was too strong to allow of his being dismissed, he was committed to Newgate till the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, that his guilt or innocence might abide the award of a jury.

On his trial the evidence against him was so conclusive, that no hesitation could be made to find him guilty, and judgment of death passed of course.

After conviction, he acknowledged to the ordinary of Newgate the justice of his sentence, and owned that he had defrauded his master of goods to a considerable amount. He was constant and regular in his devotions, both in the chapel and in his cell; nor did he seem to entertain a hope of that mercy which he had no right to expect.

When he was told that his name was included in the warrant for execution, he received the dreadful news with great composure; and confessed that he had merited the shocking fate that awaited him. He behaved even with pious resignation, and acknowledged that faith in the merits of Christ by which poor sinners are to expect salvation.

He was visited after conviction by a number of people who had known him in the former part of life, and who kindly assisted him in his solemn preparations for eternity.

He received the sacrament on the morning of his death, and repeated the declarations he had formerly made of his guilt. At the fatal tree he addressed himself to the surrounding multitude, earnestly desiring servants not to defraud their employers. He prayed in the most earnest manner, and so audibly as to be heard by great numbers who attended his fatal exit.—After the body had hung the customary time, it was delivered to his friends, in order to its being buried as they might think proper.

Richard Morgan suffered at Tyburn on the 27th of May, 1772.

From the case of this unfortunate man persons in a dependent situation should principally learn two things, viz. never to injure their masters; and by all means to avoid any connexion with low company at alehouses, as the keeping such company may insensibly involve them in expences which may lead to the commitment of acts of dishonesty.

Honest countrymen are generally too fond of repairing to London, in the vain hope of making that fortune which very few of them ever acquire; and perhaps those who do might be more happy in their native fields, undisturbed with the cares of the busy world.

It is not every man that grows rich that becomes happy of course; and perhaps the contrary is more generally the case.

Upon the whole, we should learn resignation to the will of Providence, and be taught the great doctrine of being content in any station in which we may be placed.

Life's but a *short chace*; the game CONTENT,
Which most *pursued*, is most *compell'd* to fly;
And

And he that mounts him on the swiftest hope,
Shall often run his courser to a stand ;

While the poor peasant, on some distant hill,
Undanger'd, and at ease, views all the sport,
And sees CONTENT take shelter in his *cottage*.

SHAKESPEAR.



The Case of PETER M'CLOUD, who was hanged
at *Tyburn* for *House-Breaking*, before he had at-
tained the Age of Sixteen.

THIS ill-fated youth was the son of a poor
man at Shields, near Newcastle, who brought
him to London while he was quite a child ; and the
father dying in a short time, left the boy to the
care, or, perhaps more properly speaking, to the
neglect of his mother, who was a woman of very
doubtful character, and said to encourage young
lads in the practice of theft.

M'Cloud had been connected with a lad named
Younger, who had been concerned with him in a
variety of irregular practices. At length M'Cloud
engaged himself on board one of the colliers trad-
ing to Newcastle ; and while he was absent Younger
accused his mother of having been the receiver of
stolen goods, the consequence of which was that
she was apprehended and brought to trial, but was
discharged in defect of evidence.

M'Cloud returning from his voyage, and learn-
ing in what manner his mother had been treated by
Younger, he made the most solemn vow of taking
vengeance on him, whatever might be the conse-
quence of such a proceeding.

That

That he might effect the ruin of his old companion in iniquity, he surrendered himself to a magistrate, and gave information that himself and Younger had been concerned in a robbery; on which the latter was soon taken into custody, and committed to Newgate, M'Cloud being admitted an evidence for the crown against his presumed accomplice: but at the ensuing sessions M'Cloud was incapable of giving any thing like evidence against his companion, who was of course acquitted, and the scheme of revenge was consequently frustrated.

It is no less astonishing than true, that, notwithstanding what had passed, these young fellows soon renewed their former connexion; so that whatever degree of malice might have harboured in the breast of M'Cloud, he seemed to have forgot it in the wish to recommence his depredations on the public with his former accomplice in iniquity.

They now joined, with five or six other boys, in the practice of picking pockets, in which, for some time, they met with too much success; but their thefts were of the lowest kind, being principally confined to the stealing of handkerchiefs, in the practice of which they were frequently detected, but dismissed after receiving the discipline of the horse-pond. These young thieves were harboured at houses of ill fame in the neighbourhood of Saltpetre-bank.

One would have imagined that such repeated punishments as were inflicted on these boys might have deterred them from continuing their iniquitous practices: M'Cloud in particular had been so often dragged through horse-ponds, and exposed to the derision of the public, that he seemed to have lost all sense of shame, and his paltry gains by theft consoled him for the ignominy that attended it. He

was

was three times tried at the Old Bailey for different offences, and had repeatedly the good fortune to escape, which ought to have warned him to discontinue his depredations on the public.

At length, after a series of practice in the picking of pockets, the gang of young villains determined to commence house-breakers, for which they were qualified, not so much by their strength, as by their artifice. They furnished themselves with a variety of tools proper for the wrenching doors and window-shutters. Occasionally they used to climb over roofs, enter at the garret-windows of houses, and descend to the lower rooms to commit their robberies; and at other times they would enter through any small opening that had been casually left unguarded. When one or two of the smallest of them had got into a house, they used to go down stairs and open the door for their associates. Sometimes only a part of the gang went in, and the rest waited to prevent detection from the arrival of any casual passenger.

It is almost incredible to think how many houses were robbed of very valuable effects by this little confederacy of villains; but their depredations were chiefly confined to Ratchiff-Highway and its neighbourhood, where a great number of persons were sufferers by their villainies.

At length three of the gang, of whom M'Cloud was one, repaired to Poplar, where they broke open the house of Joseph Hankey, Esquire, in the dead of the night. The family were all asleep; but the barking of a dog awaking one of the servants, he alarmed the rest, and begged them to oppose the intruders. Two of the thieves made an immediate escape; but M'Cloud was apprehended, and lodged in the watch-house.

On the following day he was carried before a magistrate, who committed him to Newgate, and at the next sessions held at the Old Bailey he was brought to trial, capitally convicted, and sentenced to die *.

For some time after conviction M'Cloud appeared hardened in a very high degree, nor paid any attention to the exhortations of the ordinary of Newgate; but, when he learnt that he was one of the convicts ordered for execution, a total alteration was visible in the whole of his conduct and behaviour. He apologized to the ordinary for the indifference with which he had heretofore treated him. It happened at this time that Younger was in Newgate under sentence of transportation; and M'Cloud sending for him, begged his pardon for the injury that he had formerly attempted.

The unhappy convict continued in a serious disposition for the remainder of his life, and on the morning of his death he received the sacrament, in company with the other malefactors who were to die with him.

When he arrived at the fatal tree, he requested a person to beg that his mother would not unreasonably grieve at his death; as he had hopes that he was departing to the regions of eternal glory.

Peter M'Cloud suffered at Tyburn on the 27th of May, 1772.

There

* It has been thought hard, by some persons, that the mere breaking into a house whence nothing is stolen should cost a man his life; but it ought to be considered that the man who breaks a house means to rob it; and that the punishment should follow of course.

There is something very shocking in the revenge of M'Cloud, which could instigate him to swear against Younger a fact that was never committed; but there is, if possible, a still greater depravity of heart, evidenced in his joining his former accomplice, the very one whose life he had so lately attempted to take away.

Let us hope that this malefactor, old as he was in sin, yet young in years, may have met with that mercy the hope of which seemed to inspire his departing moments: but let no one be tempted to follow his example: let young people, in particular, learn that the slightest deviation from the path of duty may lead to the most ignominious fate: but let not this be the *only* consideration: let them consider that there is *more* of criminality in breaking the laws of God, than in infringing those that are merely of human institution; and may they regulate their conduct by the inferences they will draw from these considerations!



A full and particular Account of JOSEPH GUYANT, and JOSEPH ALLPRESS, who were hanged for robbing the Mail, and afterwards hung in chains; with a Narrative of their Lives and Behaviour.

THE first mentioned of these offenders was a native of Essex, descended from honest but poor parents, who gave him as good an education as consisted with their circumstances, and then bound him apprentice to a smith, with whom he

served his time with fidelity, after which he laboured as a journeyman in his own profession.

Quitting the county of Essex, he repaired to Edmonton, near London, where he married and commenced business on his own account. For a considerable time he was as successful in trade as could be reasonably expected, but at length sustained a loss to which he attributed all his future misfortunes.

Guyant, having been out receiving money from several people who employed him, was stopped on his return to his own house by two footpads, who robbed him of above sixty pounds, and then bound him to a tree. This loss was a matter of great importance to him; but it was still aggravated by the consequences that followed it: for, as the robbery happened in the day time, he was advised to sue the county, to indemnify him for the loss; but failing to adduce the necessary proofs, he lost his suit, and was involved in still farther difficulties by the consequence.

The expence of the suit being considerable, Guyant was arrested, and sought refuge in a prison. In consequence of a subscription among his friends, he removed himself to the Fleet, where he continued till an act for the relief of insolvent debtors enabled him to obtain his liberty.

He had at this time a family which was in want of the necessaries of life; but, during his imprisonment, he had acquired such a habit of idleness that he was still less disposed to provide for them than before. It will be now proper that we say something of Joseph Allpress, the person concerned with Guyant in robbing the mail.

Allpress was a native of St. Ives in Huntingdonshire, and, like his accomplice, had served his apprenticeship

prenticeship to a smith. After his time was expired, he laboured a considerable time in draining the fens in the Isle of Ely, and then his ill fortune led him to Edmonton, where he contracted an acquaintance with Guyant, which ended in the most fatal consequences; for Guyant, having now lost all relish for a life of industry, persuaded the other to be concerned with him in deer-stealing.

This proposal was but too well relished by Allpreps, who, without reflecting on the dangerous tendency of such a practice, embarked in the scheme with Guyant, and they robbed the parks of several gentlemen in the neighbourhood.

Encouraged by what they deemed success, because they remained undetected, they broke into the church at Edmonton, and carried off some of the communion plate; but it was not known who were the offenders, till after they were convicted of robbing the mail.

A very little time had passed after the sacrilege, when Guyant proposed to Allpreps the fatal scheme which ended in the destruction of them both; intimating, at the same time, that their fortunes might be made by the putting off the bank-notes. Allpreps declared that he had never seen a bank-note in his life, and confessed that he was very illiterate; but, overborne by the persuasions of the other, he at length agreed to be concerned in robbing the mail.

This shocking resolution being made, they lost no time in the attempt to carry it into execution, the first step to which was the preparing an ax, hardened to such a degree as to cut iron.

Having thus resolved on their plan, they waited in the road, at a place called Houndsfield, for the arrival of the northern mail. At length the post-boy

boy arrived, and had with him a person named John Thomas, to whom he had given a lift on the road. Guyant stopped the horses of the mail-cart, and threatened instant destruction to Thomas and the driver, unless they immediately got down.

This threat was too terrible not to be complied with : on which the post-boy was ordered to drive his carriage into an adjacent field, and Thomas was compelled to attend him. The robbers now bound the other parties to a tree, and then demanded the key of the mail-cart ; but finding that it was not in possession of the driver, they took the cart across the field, broke it open with their axe, and then took out some of the bags, and buried a number of the notes in the earth*.

The driver of the mail-cart, and his companion, remained bound to the tree till morning, when the latter happily freed himself, and then gave liberty to the other.

On searching for the horses, they found them grazing in the field, and discovered that the cart had been broken as above mentioned. The post-boy instantly drove to London, and gave proper notice of the injury that had been done.

The secretary of the general post office immediately advertised a reward of two hundred pounds for the discovery of the offenders ; but nothing transpired for some months, till at length Allpress ventured to London, to procure the acceptance of some of the stolen drafts ; the worst scheme that could possibly have been devised ; for the payment
of

* This circumstance first appeared on the examination of the prisoners at Sir John Fielding's, when the writer of this account was present.

of these drafts being previously stopped, Allpress was taken into custody, and being carried before Sir John Fielding, he immediately confessed the fact; on which he was committed to prison, and some officers of justice sent in search of Guyant, who soon found him, and discovered several bags in a yard behind his house, in which were a number of letters which had been stolen from the mail.

Both offenders were lodged in Tothill-fields bridewell, and at the proper time removed to Newgate, in preparation for their trials at the Old Bailey; where they were convicted on the fullest evidence, and received sentence of death.

After conviction, and indeed long before it, they exhibited the truest penitence that perhaps was ever observed by illiterate men in their unhappy situation. They were exceedingly attentive to the instructions of the ordinary of Newgate, and made the devoutest preparations for their fatal exit.

On the morning of execution they received the sacrament with every mark of the sincerest contrition, and made a solemn declaration of their hope of eternal bliss through the merits of the redeemer of mankind.

On their way to the place of execution they behaved with the utmost decency; and, when arrived at the fatal spot, Guyant was so weak that it was necessary for two men to support him while the executioner fixed the halter round his neck; yet he was fervent in his devotions notwithstanding his weakness.

Both the malefactors begged the spectators to take warning by their fatal exit, and, having finished their devotions, suffered the sentence of the law; after which their bodies were cut down, and
carried

carried to Finchley-common, where they were hung in chains.

Joseph Guyant and Joseph Allpreps were hanged at Tyburn on the 8th of July, 1772.

In the case of the malefactors before us, we see a remarkable instance of the progressive nature of vice. Guyant and Allpreps were first deer-stealers, then guilty of sacrilege, and at length ventured on the horrid plan of robbing the mail. Those who do not see, in this instance, the absurdity of encouraging the first emotions to vice, will not be convinced by any arguments that we can offer. We shall therefore drop the subject, to make a remark which is new in a work of this kind.

When these unhappy men were examined at the public-office in Bow-street, there appeared a degree of contrition in their countenances and behaviour that no language can describe. They begged it as a favour of Sir John Fielding that they might be re-committed to Tothill-fields bridewell, alleging, as a reason, that the devotions at that place were more regularly performed than at other prisons; and this we have good reason to believe to be the fact. The governor of that prison is a religious man, and laudably exerts himself in the instruction and edification of the unhappy people who fall under his care. This is a rare instance, which cannot be sufficiently applauded; and we trust that Mr. Smith (the governor*) will pardon the liberty we have now taken, in mentioning his name on an occasion which is intended, and ought, to do him honour.

Happy would it be if every keeper of a prison was equally zealous to promote the eternal welfare of

* In February, 1779.

of the unhappy persons committed to his care! But while we say this, we must in common justice remark, that the prisons throughout England were never managed with a stricter regard to the laws of decency and regularity than at present.

Particulars respecting JOHN ADSHEAD, and BENJAMIN ALSWORTH, who were hanged for House-breaking; with an Account of their Lives and Connexions.

THE former of these malefactors was a native of Northamptonshire, and trained up to the business of husbandry, which he followed till he approached nearly to manhood, when he repaired to London, and lived in the service of different persons in quality of a footman.

By an attention to the rules of frugality he became possessed of a sum of money, ten guineas of which he gave to a person to instruct him in the art of a gunsmith; and, having acquired the knowledge of the art, he for some time laboured industriously to support himself; but getting into bad company, he was prevailed on to commence the dangerous practice of house-breaking; but being at length too well known in London, he was afraid of being discovered, and therefore repaired to Bristol, to commit his depredations in that city.

Soon after he arrived at Bristol, he broke into the house of a watchmaker, and carried off effects to the amount of £.150. These he conveyed to London, where he disposed of them, and with the produce took a public-house in Princes-street, Drury-

lane; but no success attending him in this situation, he quitted business, and re-commenced the practice of house-breaking, which ended in his destruction, as will be seen in the course of this narrative.

Alsworth (the other criminal) was a native of Birmingham, and followed the profession of gun-making. After practising his trade some time, he repaired to London, and enlisting in the army, became a drummer in the 85th regiment of foot. He served in Portugal during the last war, in the reign of King George the Second, and was likewise present at the siege of Belleisle; but when the peace came on he returned to his original profession.

During his military life his behaviour was consistent with his duty. On his return to England he married a young woman, who bore him two children; but happening to become acquainted with Adshhead, his ruin soon followed. These men were frequently in company; and Alsworth, observing that Adshhead dressed in a style of gentility which he presumed to be above his circumstances, asked how he afforded to make such an appearance; to which the other replied, that an uncle, who was lately dead, had left him several articles of considerable value.

Their intimacy now daily increased; and Alsworth's children being indisposed, and himself deficient of employment, he asked the other to lend him three or four guineas, which he would not fail to return on a happier change in his circumstances.

Adshhead said that he was not then in possession of so much money, but if the other would take his advice, he would instruct him how to "obtain a hundred pounds in an hour."

Alsworth thought he spoke jestingly, but begged to know his real meaning; on which the other

con-

confessed that he subsisted by house-breaking, and invited his acquaintance to come to his lodgings that evening. This invitation was complied with: a copartnership in iniquity was agreed on, and they committed several burglaries; but that of which we are now about to relate the particulars brought them to their fatal end.

About one o'clock in the morning of the 18th of May, 1772, they broke into the house of Mrs. Bellamy, a widow lady in Newman-street, Oxford-road, whence they carried off silk, wearing apparel, and other effects, to a considerable amount.

They packed the goods in two parcels, and proceeded towards Tottenham-court-road, where they were observed by two watchmen, who followed them towards Ruffel-street, Bloomsbury, where they were noticed by another watchman, belonging to the parish of St. Giles, who seized on Alsworth; on which the other threw down his parcel and ran off, but was soon taken into custody.

Being conveyed to the watch-house, they were searched by the constable of the night, who likewise examined the parcels of stolen goods. On the following morning they were carried before justice Cox, to whom they asserted that the things were their own property, and that they were removing them from their lodgings, to prevent their landlord seizing on them for rent.

This story did not seem to be at all plausible; and, as they refused to give an account of their place of residence, a well-grounded suspicion arose that they were thieves; on which they were committed for re-examination when the persons who had been robbed could be found.

When Mrs. Bellamy's family arose in the morning, the servants discovered that the house had

been robbed as above-mentioned. Hereupon hand-bills were instantly printed*, and circulated through London: the consequence of which was that justice Cox sent for Mrs. Bellamy and her servants, and the prisoners being brought to a re-examination, the stolen effects were identified, and the two men were committed to Newgate for trial.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in the month of June, 1772, the prisoners were indicted for breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Mary Bellamy, widow, and stealing a gauze sack and petticoat with silk and gold flowers, three silk sacks and petticoats, a brocaded silk night-gown, a chased gold outside watch-case, and a variety of other valuable articles, the property of Mrs. Bellamy and her daughter.

Adshead pleaded guilty to the indictment, begging for mercy on account of his youth; and the evidence against the other accomplice was so conclusive, that the jury could not hesitate to convict him, in consequence of which they both received sentence of death.

After conviction their behaviour was very various. On some occasions they appeared hardened in a very high degree, and as others were free to confess the crime of which they had been guilty; but when they found that their names were included in the warrant for execution, their behaviour was more regular, consistent, and penitent; and the ordinary of Newgate, forming a favourable opinion of
of

* The immediate circulation of hand-bills is the readiest method of detecting thieves. This has been proved in a thousand instances that have occurred at the public-office in Bow-street.

of their sincerity, administered the sacrament to them, and gave them such advice as he deemed proper in their unhappy situation : he cautioned them not to trust to their own penitence, but to rely on the merits of Christ for eternal salvation.

On the day appointed for their execution the ordinary attended them early in the morning, renewed his good advice, and besought them to fix their minds on a better world than that to which they were so soon to bid a final adieu. On being put into the cart they shed many tears, and lifted up their eyes to heaven in the hope of that mercy whence alone, in their situation, it could be expected.

At the fatal tree they confessed that they were guilty of the crime of which they had been convicted, and cautioned their auditors never to be guilty of a similar violation of the laws of justice. An immense concourse of people attended this execution ; and when the bodies had hung the usual time, they were delivered to the friends of the deceased, in order for interment.

John Adshead and Benjamin Alsworth suffered at Tyburn on the 8th of July, 1772.

The reflections arising from the case of these men can but little deviate from those we have made on that of former house-breakers ; but we see that a copartnership in iniquity is no bar to the inevitable consequences of guilt. Adshead's confession of his crime amounted to little less than an accusation of his accomplice, since they were both taken into custody almost immediately after the commission of the fact.

Upon consideration of the whole matter, it will appear evident that nothing can so effectually secure our peace of mind, as a strict adherence to the laws of

of honesty, and a regular and constant attendance on the duties of religion.

Account of the Case of ROBERT JONES, who was tried for, and convicted of, the Crime of *Sodomy*; with some Particulars respecting his conditional Pardon.

IT is painful to recite a narrative of this kind, wherein it is almost impossible to avoid some little degree of indelicacy; but our promise in our advertisements for this work renders it necessary for us to give an account of all those trials which have been remarkable enough to engage the particular attention of the public.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in the month of July, 1772, Robert Jones was indicted for feloniously making an assault on Francis Henry Hay, an infant of the age of thirteen years, and committing the crime mentioned at the head of this narrative.

The evidence given on the trial (for we would be as concise in a tale of this kind as possible) was simply this. That young Hay lived with his uncle, who was a jeweller in Parliament-street; that the prisoner, who used to deal at the shop, met him in St. Martin's-lane, and told him he had a buckle to mend; that he told him to come to his lodgings in St. Martin's-court; that the boy went more than once; that Jones actually perpetrated the fact for which he was indicted, and gave him some half-pence to keep the affair secret.

It

It appeared farther, in evidence, that the boy declined going to Mr. Jones's with a shirt-buckle which he had bespoke, seeming to be ashamed of what had formerly passed; and that the child was indisposed in his health.

This gave rise to a suspicion that something improper had been transacted; the consequence of which was, that Mr. Jones was taken into custody, and brought to trial.

The character of the boy, as far as we are able to judge, was very fair; the court repeatedly questioned his friends as to his veracity; and they deposed that he was accustomed to tell the truth.

Mr. Jones called some witnesses to prove his attachment to women; and they deposed, among other things in his favour, that they did not think him capable of being guilty of such a crime as was alledged against him; but that his character was of a very different complexion.

The jury, however, gave credit to the evidence that had been adduced against the prisoner, and gave a verdict of guilty; in consequence of which he received judgment of death.

Mr. Jones was a lieutenant in the army, and generally known by the name of Capt. Jones. It would seem almost incredible to those who may not remember the particulars of this case, if we were to mention how much it became the subject of public discussion. The news-papers were, for a time, crowded with an account of the affair of Capt. Jones. A letter, or paragraph, reprobated him one day as a devil; and on the next he was represented as a man of honour and a gentleman. Girls of the town published letters in his favour, which though in a case of this kind they could not be answered, were severely censured by writers on the

the other side of the question. The contest, in short, was inexpressibly violent; and, while some were most eagerly and daily seeking his destruction, others were as eager to plead in his behalf.

There is nothing in his trial that seems to militate in his favour, nor any thing to destroy the credibility of the evidence against him. There seems not to have been any motive of malice in the prosecution, nor any sinister end to answer by the conviction of the culprit.—His prosecutors were persons of reputation:—his jury was composed of men of honour and conscience, and there can be no doubt but that they gave a verdict conformable to the oath that they had taken.

Be all this as it may, the utmost interest was exerted in his favour; and such representations were made to the King, that his Majesty was pleased to grant him his pardon, on the condition of his transporting himself for the term of his natural life.

In consequence hereof he quitted Newgate privately, and embarked for some foreign shore. What became of him afterwards we have never learnt, nor can the reader be solicitous to know. If he is alive, and conscious of his guilt, we hope he has had time to repent. At any rate the memory of himself, and his crime, ought to be buried in oblivion.

On this occasion the words of the poet, with a slight alteration, may be properly applied:

Perish the wretches, wheresoe'er they're found,
Who propagate this vice on British ground;
A vice that, spite of sense and reason, reigns,
And poisons genial love, and manhood stains!

Account of WILLIAM GRIFFITHS, who was hanged at *Tyburn*, for *robbing* the Reverend Dr. DODD on the Highway, near *Tottenham-court-road*; with an Account of his Behaviour after Conviction, and of his Execution.

THIS malefactor was a native of Shropshire, and followed the business of husbandry till he had attained his 18th year, when he engaged in a naval life, and remained near three years in the East Indies. The ship was paid off on his return to England; and Griffiths, receiving a considerable sum for wages, spent his money, as sailors too generally do, in no very reputable company, at public houses in Wapping, and adjacent parts.

By his connexions with men and women of abandoned character, his money was soon spent, and he began to think of going to sea for a supply; and happy might it have been for him if he had done so: but David Evans and Timothy Johnson, two of his newly acquired associates, and men of very abandoned character, advised him to be concerned with them in committing robberies on the highway; and this triple association of thieves did actually commit a variety of depredations on the public, treating those they attacked with great inhumanity, but never obtaining any thing considerable by their lawless pursuits.

One of their robberies was the following. Having strolled into the fields in the neighbourhood of London, they wandered about till near eight o'clock in the evening, when they stopped a single-horse chaise, in which were a Mrs. Constable, the wife of a surgeon of Highgate, and her servant-maid.

maid. Mrs. Constable was driving the chaise; and the robbers had no sooner ordered them to stop, than one of them fired a pistol, the ball from which touched the cloaths of the parties, but did not do any farther mischief. Mrs. Constable was greatly terrified, and gave them what money she had in her purse; but, not content with this, they searched her pockets, and took out some other articles; but a carriage coming up at the time, they ran off with the utmost precipitation.

They were taken into custody for this offence within a very few days, and conducted to Sir John Fielding's office in Bow-street, where Evans was admitted an evidence against his accomplices. He deposed positively to the fact, and signed the information which he had given against them; yet when they were brought to trial at the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey, he absolutely denied all that he had previously asserted, declaring that neither Johnson nor Griffiths were in his company at the time of the commission of the robbery.

On this testimony it was absolutely necessary for the jury to acquit the prisoners; but Evans was told from the Bench, that he had behaved in a most scandalous manner, and was ordered back to Newgate, to take his trial for perjury.

Griffiths had no sooner experienced this narrow escape from the most ignominious death, than he returned to the company of several of his old acquaintance, who used to assemble at a house of ill fame in Tothill-street, Westminster, and soon had again recourse to the highway, for a supply of money to support his extravagances.

His reign, however, was now very short, for he soon committed the fact which terminated in an ignominious death, of which we shall proceed to relate

relate the particulars. The Rev. Dr. Dodd * and his lady were returning from a visit they had been making to a gentleman at St. Alban's, but were detained on the way at Barnet, because a post-chaise could not be immediately procured.

Night was hastily approaching when they left Barnet; but they proceeded unmolested till they came near the turnpike at the extremity of Tottenham-court-road, when three men called to the driver of the carriage, and threatened his instant destruction if he did not stop. The post-boy did not hesitate to obey such a summons; but no sooner was the carriage stopped than a pistol was fired, the ball from which went through the front glass of the chaise, but did not take any effect to the injury of the parties in it, though it terrified them in a very high degree, as they apprehended that the most fatal consequences might ensue.

While the Doctor was waiting at Barnet for the chaise, it occurred to him that there might be danger on the road; whereupon he concealed most of his money, except two guineas which he put in his purse, with a bill of exchange.

Soon after the pistol was fired, Griffiths opened the door of the chaise; on which the doctor begged him to behave with civility, on account of the presence of the lady. He then delivered the purse, with its contents, and likewise gave the robber some loose silver. Griffiths, having received the booty, decamped with the utmost precipitation.

Dr.

* Our readers will see, in the course of this work, that Dr. Dodd himself was tried and executed for forgery; a crime little to have been apprehended from a gentleman of his profession!

Dr. Dodd lost no time in repairing to Sir John Fielding's office, where he and his lady gave so full a description of the person of the principal robber, that it was easily conjectured that Griffiths must have been the party; but who had been his associates in the business has never yet transpired.

In consequence of this information, Griffiths was soon taken into custody; but, on his examination before Sir John Fielding, Dr. Dodd hesitated to swear positively to his person; but Mrs. Dodd, who had regarded him with more attention, positively declared on oath that he was the person who had committed the robbery.

Hereupon the magistrate committed Griffiths to Newgate, and a bill of indictment being found against him by the grand jury, he was called down to trial at the next sessions at the Old Bailey, when the following was the substance of the evidence against him.

Dr. Dodd declared, that it was with great reluctance he came into a court of justice on such an occasion, which he said he would not have done, if the robbery had not been attended with circumstances of an aggravating kind; but that the firing of the pistol was a crime of so horrid a nature, that his regard to the safety of others had induced him to commence a prosecution so abhorrent to the feelings of his own mind: but the Doctor would not swear to the identity of the prisoner's person.

On the contrary, Mrs. Dodd swore that he was the actual person that had committed the robbery; and declared that he had confessed his guilt when before Sir John Fielding. This evidence was deemed so conclusive, that the jury did not hesitate to find him guilty, in consequence of which he received sentence of death.

After

After conviction he behaved for some time in such a manner as was by no means proper for his melancholy situation; and he refused to attend divine service in the chapel: but after the arrival of the warrant for his execution his conduct appeared to be totally changed, and he wept almost incessantly. He acknowledged the utmost readiness to listen to the instructions of the ordinary of Newgate, and made a ready confession of many robberies in which he had been concerned, owning that he had been long deserving of the dreadful fate that then awaited him.

Among other things which he confessed was, that he was the person who fired the pistol at Mrs. Constable; and that he prevailed on a woman of his acquaintance to persuade Evans to take a false oath on the trial, the consequence of which was the acquittal of himself and Johnson.

He owned that his attachment to the company of women of abandoned character contributed in a great degree to his destruction, as his extravagance in the support of them induced him to think of having recourse to the highway for a supply, the consequence of which would be an ignominious death.

The rest of his behaviour was by no means inconsistent with his calamitous situation; and the ordinary of Newgate, conceiving that he was a sincere penitent, did not hesitate to administer to him the sacrament of the Lord's supper.

When the fatal day of execution arrived, he attended service in the chapel of Newgate, where his behaviour was such as to justify the ideas that had been formed of the sincerity of his repentance. Being brought down into the press-yard, his irons were knocked off, and he was put into the cart

to be conveyed to the fatal tree; on which occasion he wept, as penetrated with the utmost contrition for his past crimes; and at the place of execution he cautioned the attending multitude in general, and youth in particular, to take warning by his unhappy fate.

William Griffiths was hanged at Tyburn on the 20th of January, 1773.

In the case of this malefactor we plainly see the fatal consequences of an attachment to bad company, which naturally leads to ignominy, destruction, and death. The man who can harden his mind so far as to fire a pistol at an unoffending traveller, is not deserving of any pity.

Dr. Dodd's tender caution, in hesitating to swear to the prisoner, furnishes a proof of the humanity of his mind. Indeed, he was a man of humane feelings, notwithstanding what happened afterwards to tarnish his own character. He was the patron of charities, public and private: but this will more fully appear hereafter, when we come to treat of his own melancholy story.

From all that has been said let us remember that punishment is the natural consequence of vice, and that the only sure path to happiness is through the road of virtue.



Account of the Case of JOSEPH COOPER,
who was hanged at Tyburn for *House-breaking*;
with some Particulars of his Behaviour after
Conviction, and at the time of Execution.

THIS malefactor was the son of honest but poor parents, who were unable to educate him as they could have wished; and his father dying

dying before he was seven years of age, his mother, who was a poor washerwoman, was left the sole protector of him in the helpless state of infancy.

The mother procured his admission into a charity school, where he continued till he was fourteen years of age, when Mr. Beaumont, a capital cutler in Redcross-street, took him as an apprentice, in mere compassion to his destitute situation of life.

Mr. Beaumont was a man in a very extensive way of business; so that the youth had an opportunity of becoming a compleat master of his profession; and such was his diligence and good behaviour for a considerable time, that perhaps no lad in such a situation as he was ever acquired a better character, or was more esteemed by the neighbours and others who had connexions with his master.

Mr. Beaumont, observing his diligent and obliging behaviour, treated him with the utmost kindness, with a view to inspire him with a resolution of continuing in the practice of that duty which was so likely to be productive of his present and future happiness.

Unhappily, however, for Cooper, this gentle treatment had not its desired effect, as will be seen in the sequel of this story; yet he served out his apprenticeship with fidelity, and afterwards lived some time with his master as a journeyman. Mr. Beaumont still continued to treat him with his usual kindness, and so generous was his behaviour towards him, that the least attention to his own interest would most probably have preserved him from ruin, and enabled him to have made a very creditable figure in life.

Unhap-

Unhappily for himself, Cooper got acquainted with a number of young fellows of dissolute character, who frequented a public-house in Golden-lane, where they spent their time in scenes of riot and dissipation, equally calculated to destroy their health of body and peace of mind.

Cooper's former principles of virtue were all unhinged by an association with such obnoxious companions, and his mind was soon contaminated with ideas that led with rapid and certain progress to his destruction.

At length, through the instigation of his companions, he frequented houses of ill fame, which introduced him to the company of women of abandoned character; one of whom he became intimately acquainted with, and cohabited with her at a house of infamous character in Denmark-court in the Strand.

In a conversation between Cooper and his girl, the latter advised him to rob his late master, as the readiest way to raise a supply to support their present extravagance; and this scheme was thought the more practicable, as Cooper, having lived several years in the house, knew all the avenues to it, and every part of which he was well acquainted with.

Cooper at first appeared to be shocked at the simple idea of so basely injuring a man who had protected him in the early part of life, and had, on all occasions, proved himself such a disinterested friend; and he actually, for some time, refused to have any concern in such an ungenerous transaction: at length the arguments of the girl prevailed, and he resolved on the commission of the crime, which terminated in his destruction.

It was Mr. Beaumont's custom to spend his evening at a public house in Old-street; and on his return home he carefully locked his doors, and observed that every other place of possible entrance was made fast, in order to prevent the admission of robbers; yet his vigilance proved fruitless, for Cooper, whom of all men he would have least suspected, proved the ungenerous infringer on the property of his benefactor.

Mr. Beaumont having seen his house secure one night, retired to rest; but about two on the following morning he was awakened by a noise that seemed to arise from the trampling of feet on the stairs.

Terrified in a high degree by this unexpected visit, he was for some time afraid of venturing out of his bed; but at length, hearing that some person had gone out of his chamber, and shut the door, he got up, and discovered that his bureau had been broken open, and a hundred guineas stolen from it. He likewise observed that the lock of the chamber-door, and the chain which confined it, had been forced open by means of a chissel.

As it was presumed that the person who had committed the robbery could not be at any great distance, Mr. Beaumont alarmed the watchmen, who made an immediate pursuit; and though they did not overtake the robber, they presumed that they were near him, from hearing the trampling of feet hastily moving in the street, as those of a person flying from a pursuer.

The circumstances attending this robbery made it almost evident that the person who committed it must have been intimately acquainted with the avenues of the house; and Mr. Beaumont was induced to suspect that Cooper was the thief, from

what he had then lately heard of the abandoned course of his life.

Hereupon Mr. Beaumont sent for a constable, and at seven o'clock the following morning Cooper was taken into custody at the house where he resided in Denmark-court in the Strand.

He at first denied having had any concern in the robbery, but being conveyed to his master's house, the precise money lost, except one guinea, was found on him. Mr. Beaumont sent for a neighbour, named Dyson, to advise with him how to act, and expressed with tears his aversion to the thought of prosecuting him.

Mr. Dyson told him it would be unsafe to discharge him; on which he was conveyed to the Compter, and on his examination before the sitting alderman such strong evidence of his guilt appeared, that he was committed to Newgate, for trial at the next Old Bailey sessions.

On his trial the master deposed against him with the most generous reluctance, and begged that, if it were possible, his punishment might be mitigated to any thing short of that of death. Cooper, by way of defence, recounted an absurd tale, hinting that the prosecution was undertaken from revengeful motives, on account of a quarrel which had taken place when he quitted Mr. Beaumont's service.

After a fair and candid trial the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, but joined in recommending him as an object of the royal clemency; and Mr. Beaumont signed a petition in behalf of the wretched convict; but, after the report was made to the king, he was included among those who were ordered for execution.

A confinement in the cells of Newgate brought this unhappy youth to a due consideration of the enormity

enormity of his crime, of which he appeared sincerely to repent, and confessed the justice of his sentence to the clergyman who directed him in his devotions.

He behaved in the most contrite manner at the fatal tree, where he again confessed that he had merited that public and ignominious death which the law had awarded for his crimes.

Joseph Cooper was hanged at Tyburn on the 30th of June, 1773.

In the fate of this malefactor we see the just punishment due to the crime of ingratitude. The robbing a master, who had treated him with such unusual kindness, was a proof that an association with bad company will so corrupt the mind, as to make it capable of the deepest baseness.

Hence, then, young people should learn to abstain from all evil associations, and to connect themselves only with the sober, the virtuous, the religious; and they may be assured that peace of mind will follow this conduct.



A full Relation of the Life, Trial, Behaviour, and Execution, of JOHN LENNARD, who was hanged at *Tyburn*, for committing the horrid Crime of a *Rape*.

THIS offender was one of the lowest and most abandoned of the human race. He had been taught to read and write, which was all his education; but was too idle to think of any reputable employment, and even from his childhood discovered the most brutal and barbarous disposition.

Having a low, as well as a most savage turn of mind, he made himself acquainted with some bailiffs, who used to employ him to seize the goods of unfortunate people who were indebted in trifling sums; and in this capacity he gave such singular proofs of hardness of heart, that an officer of the Marshalsea court employed him as his follower.

In this station he was so exceedingly vigilant, active, and penetrating, that it was almost impossible for any man who had a writ out against him to escape him. He used to dress himself in a variety of disguises, to carry on his schemes, and seldom failed to render the unfortunate still more miserable.

Lennard's employer was a native of Dumfries in Scotland, and carried a pack of linen round the country for many years; but being greatly involved in debt to several linen-draper, he was arrested, and lodged in the Marshalsea prison, whence he obtained his liberty under an act of insolvency; after which he commenced the very reputable profession of a Marshal's court officer.

If he wanted a villain to assist him in his business, he could not have made choice of one more complete than Lennard, whose heart was formed of the most flinty materials, and whose head was as keen to contrive as his hand ready to execute. A proof of the truth of this assertion will arise from the following horrid narrative.

At Reading in Berkshire lived a tradesman, who had been so unfortunate in his commercial connexions, that for two years together he secreted himself in his own house, Sundays excepted. This unhappy man had seven children, and his wife attended the shop, to support the infants; while the husband anxiously waited the arrival of a friend,
who

who had made a large fortune in the East Indies, and who, he made no doubt, would assist him with money to discharge his just obligations to his creditors.

At this time the unhappy tradesman had a woman servant, who had heretofore lived in a scandalous intimacy with the bailiff and his follower. This woman informed her old associates what she had learnt of the East India story; on which Lennard formed a scheme that would ever mark his character with infamy, if that had been his only violation of the laws of humanity.

The bailiff had no conception than any advantage could be made of the base woman's intelligence; but Lennard, begging that the matter might be left to him, went to Reading, and sending for the woman, told her that his design was to return to London, and send her master a letter in a fictitious name, informing him that his friend was returned from the East Indies, and wished to see him.

On his return, the creditors were told that the tradesman might be arrested: on which a writ was taken out, and delivered to the bailiffs; and a letter was written, informing the tradesman that his friend was returned to England, and, having learnt that his circumstances were embarrassed, would send a gentleman to meet him at Hammer Smith, and attend him to London in all possible privacy.

The devoted victim to this infernal plan, unsuspecting of what might happen, took place in the coach; and, when it came to Hammer Smith, Lennard and his master were in waiting, and told him they attended at the request of his friend, who was returned to England very rich; and there being room for them, they got into the coach, and drove to Piccadilly.

Lennard

Lennard now desired the coachman to stop while they drank a glass of wine; and inviting the tradesman into a public-house, they presented their writ, and conveyed their prisoner to a spunging-house near Covent Garden.

The dexterity of Lennard now became the general subject of conversation and praise among the bailiffs of London and Westminster; and the villain who contrived the plan was extolled as the most ingenious of his profession. His fame now spread at a rapid rate; and he soon afterwards engaged as follower to an officer under the sheriff of Middlesex, who had been a linen-draper in Piccadilly, but had failed in trade. Lennard now got considerable sums of money by his rapacity and extortion; but he was no sooner in possession of it, than he spent his ill-acquired gains among women of the town, two of whom he contributed greatly to support:—but we come now to speak of the atrocious crime which brought him to a shameful end.

An execution having been served on the goods of Mr. Brailsford, a gentleman in Petty-France, Westminster, Lennard, and two other fellows, named Guy and Groves, were put into possession. This execution was served on the 14th of June, 1773, and on the following day the crime was perpetrated.

Miss Ann Bos, a young lady of virtue and prudence, lodged in Mr. Brailsford's house; and when his misfortunes came on, that gentleman left his children in the care of the young lady.

Miss Bos going up stairs to dress herself, in order to pay a visit to a lady in the neighbourhood, she was followed by Lennard, whom she was astonished to see enter her chamber, where he
perpe-

perpetrated the rape, with every circumstance of horrid aggravation.

In the interim she alarmed the neighbourhood; but Lennard having by this time left her, she went down into the yard, where she fainted away, and continued some time in a state of insensibility. Some of the neighbours now came to the door, and insisted on being admitted; but Lennard drew a sword, and threatened instant destruction to the first who should presume to enter.

A foreign gentleman who lodged at the next house, having observed the unhappy situation of Miss Bos, recommended an immediate application to a magistrate; but, as the hour grew late, it was resolved to wait till the morning before any such step should be taken*.

In the interim Mr. Houseman, of Berkhamstead, an acquaintance of Mr. Brailsford, being in London, went to the house of his friend, late on the same night; where finding Lennard in possession of the effects, he begged to speak with Miss Bos; but the villain kicked him out of the house, instead of complying with his request.

On the following morning the neighbours applied to Sir John Fielding, who immediately sent several constables to take into custody the three men in the possession of the house.

Being conveyed to Bow-street, Miss Bos gave positive testimony against Lennard for the rape;

on

* It was strange that any hesitation should be made respecting the hour, in a case of this nature. Any hour of the night would have been equal at Bow-street, and immediate steps would have been taken to secure the offender.

on which he and his companions were committed to Newgate.

At the next sessions at the Old Bailey Lennard was capitally convicted, and received sentence of death ; and Guy and Groves, being found guilty of a misdemeanour, wee adjudged to be burnt in the hand and imprisoned.

Lennard's behaviour after conviction was insensible and brutal in a high degree ; nor could he be induced to perform any office of religion, notwithstanding his deplorable situation : nor at the place of death was his behaviour more becoming ; he died as little lamented as perhaps any one that ever suffered at the fatal tree.

John Lennard was hanged at Tyburn on the 12th of August, 1773.

It is a common saying, when a man is known for an egregious villain, that " hanging is too good for him ;" and surely, if this could ever be applied with truth, it must have been to this malefactor ; yet his brethren of the order of bailiffs did not seem to think so, for they made a subscription for his funeral, whereas his carcase ought to have been given to the fowls of the air.

The life of this man seems to have been one chain of guilt from the cradle to the gallows : but it is time to have done with so execrable a subject ; and we trust it cannot be necessary to warn any one from following his example ; a dreadful example to present and future times !



A Particular Account of the Case of WILLIAM FIELD, otherwise GREEN, who was hanged at *Kennington Common*, for a *Highway-robbery*, after a long Reign of Iniquity.

THIS malefactor was an accomplice of the notorious Hawke the highwayman, of whom we shall have occasion to speak in the course of this work.

Field went by a variety of names, so that it would be difficult to distinguish which was the true one; but this is the name by which he was examined at Bow-street, tried, and convicted.

Not having learnt any trade, he entered into the service of a gentleman, with whom he lived three years, but was at length discharged, on account of his character: however, he soon got a new place on a false recommendation; but his extravagance and ill hours induced this master likewise to discharge him.

Being reduced to great poverty, the consequence of his vices, he resolved on commencing highwayman; and, having hired horses at livery stables, he committed such a variety of robberies, that he soon became the subject of public conversation.

The money he acquired by his lawless depredations he squandered among men and women of abandoned character; but at length he was sought after by the officers of justice, who carried him before a magistrate, by whom he was committed to Newgate.

He was tried at the next sessions at the Old Bailey: when the prosecutor gave his testimony

against him in so favourable a manner, that though the jury found him guilty, they recommended him to the royal mercy. The consequence was, that he was reprieved for transportation in the year 1770.

On his arrival in North America he was sold to slavery; but, soon finding means to escape with other slaves to New York, they embarked on board a vessel bound for Pool, and landed in England.

Field hastening to London engaged with Hawke in the practice of robbing on the highway; and making large booties, he assumed the character of a gentleman; and courting a girl who lived servant with a man of fortune, she consented to accept him for a husband.

For some months after his marriage, he committed highway-robberies about twice a week; but his wife had no suspicion of the life he led, conceiving him to be a man in good circumstances.

It is said that in five months he collected ten thousand pounds, in Bills of exchange and cash; but this we believe is beyond the truth; though he frequently committed four or five robberies on a night, sometimes on Finchley Common, and often on Shooter's hill, Blackheath, and other places in that neighbourhood; till being closely pursued, he effected a difficult escape to town. After this he frequented Putney-common and its adjacencies, whence he brought considerable booties to London.

Field, Hawke, and another, having robbed some coaches, dined and made merry at a public house at Barnes; and staying till it was near night, they crossed Kew bridge, and went to Acton, where they slept, being afraid of coming to London.

Notice having been given at Sir John Fielding's office, persons were sent out on different roads, and the

the offenders being taken were conveyed, handcuffed, to Tothill-fields bridewell. On a subsequent day they were examined, and a great number of robberies being sworn against Hawke and Field, they were remanded to prison, whence the former made his escape in a few days.

Though Field had returned from transportation, it was thought proper to indict him at the Surry assizes for the subsequent robberies; when he would have pleaded guilty, but Lord Chief Baron Smythe advised him to put himself on his trial; and when the jury had given a verdict against him, the judge pronounced sentence, after addressing him in the most pathetic manner.

Being conveyed to the New-gaol in Southwark, he was attended by the Reverend Mr. Dyer, to whom he acknowledged that the robberies he had been charged with were far short of those he had committed, and he appeared very penitent for his crimes. At the place of his death he warned young people to avoid bad company, as it was the certain road to destruction.

William Field was hanged at Kennington Common on the 1st of September, 1773.

The fate of this offender should serve as a lesson of caution to gentlemen's servants. He lost two places through the badness of his character; and being reduced to poverty, he was tempted to turn highwayman. His success for a while was extraordinary; but this led him, with only the greater rapidity, to the gallows. Nothing more need be said on this subject; this wretched man brought destruction on his own head!



The remarkable Case of Lieutenant General WILLIAM GANSEL, who was tried at the Old Bailey for feloniously firing a pistol at JOHN HYDE, a Sheriff's Officer, while attempting to arrest him under the Authority of a Special Capias.

GENERAL GANSEL having greatly impaired his fortune by a life of gaiety, had been several years under great pecuniary embarrassments, from which he was using his utmost endeavours to extricate himself at the time when the transaction happened which gave rise to the trial, of which it is our present business to relate the particulars.

In the forenoon of the 26th of August, 1773, Mr. Lee, an eminent surgeon, applied to John Hyde to arrest General Gansel for a Debt of an hundred and thirty four pounds. They went to the proper office, and obtained a special capias; after which the officer applied to his brother, Thomas Hyde, Henry Feltus, William Sleight, and Richard Reeves, to assist in the intended capture.

Between two and three in the afternoon Mr. Lee met the bailiff and his assistants, and, accompanied by John Hyde, went to the house of Mr. Mayo, in Craven-street, Strand, the other men being appointed to wait at some distance. The street door being open, they went into the parlour, and Mr. Lee asked Mrs. Mayo whether General Gansel lodged in her house. Being answered in the affirmative, Hyde went into the street, and having beckoned for his companions to come up, attempted to go towards the general's apartments; but on the stairs he was opposed by two boys, who were brothers, and servants to the general. At this time the

other

other bailiffs entered the passage, and John Hyde having struck a knife from the hand of one of the boys with a walking-stick, and thrown it out of the window, he and his brother were soon overpowered and bolted in the yard.

John Hyde deposed, that, when the boys were in the yard, he proceeded towards the second floor, and observing the general, with whose person he was well acquainted, upon the landing-place, hastened towards him, and placed his knee between the chamber-door and the wainscot, and endeavoured to force into the room, when the general discharged a pistol, the ball from which passed through the upper pannel of the door towards the hinge, and struck the wainscot on the stair case; that he then got into the room, and, clapping the general on the shoulder, said, "Sir, you are my prisoner;" when the general, with his left arm over his right shoulder, pointed another pistol at his face; but that by suddenly stooping his head, he fortunately escaped the ball, which passed through the hat of Henry Feltus; that the general was then with much difficulty forced down stairs, and put into a hackney coach, which conveyed him to a lock-up house kept by a sheriff's officer, named Armstrong, whence he was soon afterwards removed to Newgate.

Feltus produced the hat through which the ball of the second pistol had passed: but neither his evidence nor that of Thomas Hyde, Sleigh, or Reeves, materially differed from that of the first witness.

The general said, that though he was not wholly unused to speak in public, his ill state of health and other circumstances had given rise to an apprehension that he might be incapable on the present occasion to do justice to his cause in an extempore address,

address, and he had therefore reduced his defence to writing.

He then read the defence, which, among other matters, set forth, that being informed by his servants, Henry and James, that the house was surrounded by armed ruffians, and presently after hearing a violent uproar at the head of the stairs, he locked himself into his chamber, against the door of which he placed an elbow-chair, and the uproar increasing, he fired off a pistol pointed to the upper part of the door, with a view of deterring the assailants, who soon broke into the room, the forcing the door throwing him down, and the second pistol going off without design, while he was falling. He said that, from a perusal of Blackstone's Commentaries, he was taught to believe that an Englishman's house is his castle, and that a room hired for a certain time was to be considered as his castle; that he paid for his apartments by the year; and that he had occupied them eight and thirty years, sixteen years of which Mr. Mayo had been his landlord; and that he conceived he had an undoubted right of defending himself in his own habitation. In the course of his address the prisoner mentioned several persons whom he desired might be examined on his behalf.

Several witnesses swore that the bolt of the lock belonging to the general's chamber-door had been strained, and the screws of the receiver of the bolt forced out of the wood; and they likewise deposed that, from a very particular examination, they were confident the ball must have took a different direction, had the pistol been fired when the door was open, adding that, when the door was open only three inches, they perceived that the impression made by the ball on the wainscot of the stair-case

was

was not nearly in a right line with a hole in the pannel in the door, but that when the door was perfectly closed there was an exact correspondence between the hole through which the ball passed and the mark where it afterwards struck the wainscot.

Mrs. Mayo swore, that from the time the transaction happened the premises had not been seen by any person but in her presence, and that no alterations whatever had been made.

The above is a faithful abstract of the evidence adduced for and against the prisoner on an indictment for feloniously shooting at John Hyde; the first count charging him with firing off a pistol held in his right, and the second with firing at the same man another pistol held in his left hand. After the jury had remained out of court some time, they brought in their verdict, "not guilty."

The general was arraigned on two other indictments; one for feloniously shooting at Thomas Hyde; and the other for feloniously shooting at Henry Feltus: but the counsel for the prosecution informed the court, that "as the general was acquitted on the merits, he should wave proceeding on the two last indictments."

General Gansel was tried at the sessions house in the Old Bailey on Wednesday the 8th of September, 1773.

It was imagined that the principal matter for the decision of the court would have been, Whether the law would justify a man in opposing a forcible entry into his place of habitation, and how far the character, office, and authority of the assailants were to be considered in mitigation of a violent attack: but the question took a turn very different from what was expected.

The evidence of John Hyde and his associates set forth, that the door was partly open when the general fired; but the contrary appeared from the depositions of other witnesses. It does not seem that the first pistol was pointed immediately at any person; for the hole in the door was considerably higher than the head of the tallest man; and it is very probable that the second pistol went off while the general was falling. Thus the matter seems to have been understood by the jury.

Nothing but the last extremity of danger can justify the use of fire-arms, or other desperate weapons. There is something extremely shocking in the idea of taking away the life of a fellow creature, when he is unprepared for eternity.

Let our readers remember, that if it should prove their misfortune to labour under injury and oppression, the most eligible means of obtaining redress will be by an application to the legislative power.



Genuine Memoirs of the famous WILLIAM COX, who was executed at *Tyburn* for stealing Bank Notes and Cash to the amount of more than four hundred Pounds, the property of Mr. John Kendrick.

THE father of the unfortunate youth, who is the subject of this narrative, was a ribbon-weaver, and lived in Holywell-lane, near Shoreditch. His mother was esteemed honest and industrious, and was considered as the only person of the family deserving that character. At a very early time of life young Cox was initiated into the arts of thieving by his own father, who was in America, under sentence



WILLIAM COX,
in the Press Yard, Newgate.

sentence of transportation, at the time of his son's execution.

The following is an account of the first felonious transaction in which this unhappy young man was engaged: the father and son passing through Grosvenor-street, the former observed a silver tankard in a window, and attempted to steal it; but being prevented by the iron rails of the area, he lifted the boy over them, ordering him to take the tankard, which he immediately handed to his father, and was then lifted again into the street.

Soon after the above adventure young Cox commenced pick-pocket, and in a short time he was reckoned the most expert of that fraternity. Being committed to Clerkenwell-bridewell, he was reduced to a most miserable degree of poverty: but he no sooner obtained his liberty, than he procured decent apparel, and he was from that time remarkably clean and neat in his appearance.

Cox lived some years at the house of his uncle West, in Feathers-court, High Holborn, who encouraged him to pursue those illegal courses which led to his destruction.

He got unperceived into a grocer's the corner of Long-lane, in Aldersgate-street, and stole a silver-hilted sword from a room on the first floor: returning through the shop with his booty, he was asked some questions; on which he said he had been playing with master Billy, which he had informed himself was the name of the grocer's son: but on going out of the shop the sword struck against the steps, and he was taken into custody, and brought to trial, but it was his fortune to escape conviction.

Being provided with a tame sparrow, he let the bird fly into a window of a house in Hanover-street, and the door happening to be open, he went in,

and concealed plate to a considerable amount. Hearing some person walking towards the room, he sought refuge in the area, where being perceived by an elderly gentlewoman, who was the only person in the house, he burst into tears, and saying his sparrow had flown into the window, begged he might be allowed to catch it. The old lady complied; and he soon found an opportunity of decamping with his booty.

It was the common practice of Cox to play at marbles and other games with young gentlemen before the doors of their parents; and he seldom suffered an opportunity to escape of getting into and robbing the houses. He had a very remarkably boyish appearance; and on a variety of occasions that circumstance greatly assisted him in the pursuit of his felonious designs.

Cox was connected with a notorious thief, who called himself Capt. Davis; and, by means of the most artful stratagems that could be suggested, these accomplices perpetrated a surprising number of robberies. Davis was at length apprehended, and sentenced to suffer death; but he was reprieved on condition of transportation.

About the middle of the summer 1773, the apartments of Mr. Kendrick in Oxford-street were privately entered, and a bureau was opened, and three bank-notes, of a hundred pounds each, and a hundred and thirty guineas, and a silver watch, were stolen thereout. Soon after Mr. Kendrick's robbery, Cox and William Claxton went together to Reading in Berkshire, and there purchased three horses, for which Claxton paid with one of the notes stolen from Mr. Kendrick, receiving in part of change a fifty pounds bank-note, which he afterwards changed at the bank for notes of smaller value,

value, two of which were found in the possession of West, Cox's uncle. On the first examination of these offenders at the public office in Bow-street, which was on Wednesday, the eleventh day of August, West said he received the notes of his wife on the day preceding that of her decease, which was about the time of Mr. Kendrick's robbery; but on the following Wednesday he assured the magistrates that the notes had been in his possession three years. In contradiction to this it was proved that the notes had not been many days issued from the bank.

Mr. Knapp and Mr. White of Reading appeared, and the fifty pounds note, given in part of change of that of an hundred, was regularly traced from the hands of Claxton to the bank, where he had changed it for others of smaller value. West was discharged, the receiving of notes, which are the produce of other notes feloniously obtained, not coming under the description of the law; and Claxton was admitted an evidence against Cox, who was committed for trial at the ensuing sessions at the Old Bailey.

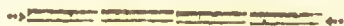
The evidence against Cox was wholly circumstantial; but it was of such a nature as to be almost as strong as positive proof, and on that evidence he was convicted at the sessions at the Old Bailey in September, 1773.

While under sentence of death he seemed not to be remarkably shocked at the idea of the dreadful fate that awaited him; he was chearful among his companions, but yet he appeared not wholly regardless of the necessary preparations for eternity.

William Cox was executed at Tyburn on the 27th of October, 1773.

Cox was by no means addicted to drunkenness. At the public houses he frequented he seldom staid long at a time, it being his usual custom to drink a small glass of liquor at the bar, for which he generally paid a shilling. For some years he had kept a little black mare, on which he rode to the races within a moderate distance of London, where he was generally very successful in making bets. He long cohabited with a woman who was equally famous for her dexterity in shoplifting, and being the sister of so accomplished a villain, and so dangerous a nest to society, as William Claxton.

It was the peculiar misfortune of Cox to be instructed in the arts of villainy by his own father, at a time of life when he was incapable of distinguishing between right and wrong. The most important part of a parent's duty is, to inspire his offspring with an ardent love of virtue. If any of our readers should be so peculiarly unfortunate as to be countenanced in vicious courses by their parents, let them disclaim all filial obedience, and seek support and protection from that Almighty Power whose favour will ever be extended to such as live in a strict adherence to his divine commands,



Particulars relating to WILLIAM HAWKE,
who was executed at *Tyburn*, for a *Robbery*
on the Highway.

THIS offender was born at Uxbridge, in the county of Middlesex. Soon after the decease of his father he came to London, and hired himself to draw beer at a public-house upon Saffron-hill. Contracting an acquaintance with some
aban-

abandoned people who frequented an alehouse in St. Giles's, he was persuaded to join them in committing depredations upon the public.

Hawke at length commenced highwayman, and became an accomplice of James Field, the particulars of whose life we have already mentioned. Field and Hawke were transported to America; and returning to England nearly at the same period, they again became associates in committing robberies upon the highway. Hawke and Field being apprehended together, the former escaped from Tothill-fields bridewell, and got to France; but the other suffered the sentence of the law.

Upon his return to England he committed a surprising number of most daring robberies; and several months elapsed before the thief-takers knew him to be the man by whom the roads about London were so dangerously infested.

Information being given to Mr. Smith, the keeper of Tothill-fields bridewell, that Hawke's wife had been to Uxbridge on a party of pleasure, he sought the driver of the coach in which she was conveyed, and learnt from him that Hawke lodged in Shoe-lane. The following morning Mr. Smith, Mr. Bond, Mr. Leigh, and some other persons in the service of Sir John Fielding, went to Shoe-lane. Bond going up two pair of stairs, entered the front room, and there discovering Hawke slumbering in bed, threw himself across the highwayman, who, twisting the sheet round Bond's head, reached at a pistol that was under the pillow, at which instant Smith entered, and caught hold of his hand. With much difficulty Hawke was secured; and being put into a coach, he said that his misfortunes were in some measure alleviated by the consideration that no life was lost, for he was
provided

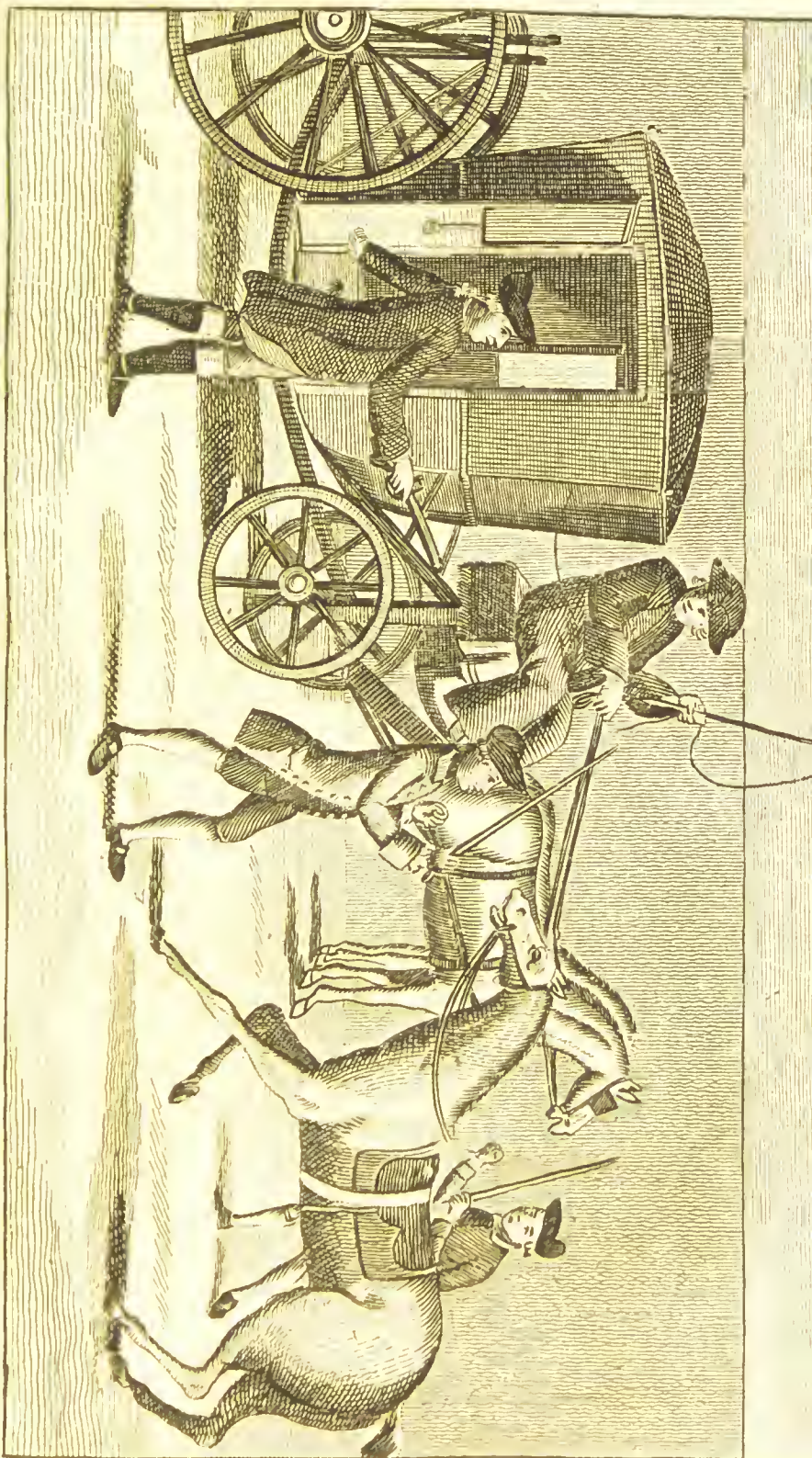
provided with several loaded pistols, and had formed the resolution of firing upon every man who should attempt to take him into custody.

Being conveyed to the public office in Bow-street, a great number of persons were bound to prosecute, and he was committed to Newgate.

At the next sessions at the Old Bailey he was arraigned on an indictment for robbing Mr. Hart of a small sum of money ; and the following are the most remarkable circumstances adduced in evidence : Mr. Hart and Captain Cunningham were stopped in the Fulham stage, a little beyond Knight-bridge, by the prisoner, who demanded their money : the captain refused to resign his property ; and Hawke threatened to fire, and pointing his pistol at the captain, he said, “ fire away and be damned ! ” on which the robber discharged his pistol, and the ball passed between the captain’s shoulder and his coat. Mr. Hart then delivered a few shillings ; and Captain Cunningham, getting out of the coach in the interim, seized the bridle of the highwayman’s horse, when he discharged a second pistol. He then remounted, but did not ride away for some minutes, during which interval the captain employed himself in picking up stones and throwing them at him. At the time of Hawke’s trial Captain Cunningham was abroad, but Mr. Hart’s evidence was so positive, clear, and circumstantial, that no doubt remained as to the guilt of the prisoner, who was therefore sentenced to be executed.

While Hawke was under sentence of death, in Newgate, his behaviour was such as may be called decent, rather than penitential. While his irons were knocking off on the morning of execution, one of his acquaintance addressed him thus : “ How do you do, Billy ? will you have some flowers ? ”

Hawke robes Cap' Cunningham & M^r Hart on the Highway near Knightsbridge.







William Hawke *in the Provost's Yard* New-
-gate



Hereupon Hawke said, “ I am pretty well, I thank you. How is Harry Wright*? he has been ill of late, I hear.” And then, while the man held the nosegay, he picked out a flower; and with great composure placed it in a button-hole of his coat.

When the cart was preparing to be driven from under the gallows, he threw off both his shoes; and when he found it move, he collected his utmost strength, and leaped up, so that his neck was instantly dislocated.

William Hawke was executed at Tyburn on the 1st of July, 1774.

The behaviour of this malefactor at the place of execution seemed to evince, that his mind was too much occupied by the desire of meeting his fate with resolution. A becoming fortitude is to be preserved even in the moment of entering upon eternity; but that fortitude must arise from a consciousness of unfeigned repentance, and be accompanied by the pleasing hope of obtaining pardon at the dread tribunal of the Almighty.



Account of CHARLES MILLS and JOHN PUGH, who were executed at *Tyburn* for a Robbery on the King's Highway, commonly called a *Footpad-Robbery*.

THESE offenders were born of poor parents, and received little or no education. In the winter they acted as porters on the wharfs of the Thames, and in the summer employed themselves as haymakers; but at length associating with abandoned

* One of the turnkeys of Tothill-fields bridewell.

doned company of both sexes, who lived in Chick-lane, and such places, they lost those fair characters they had hitherto supported.

Distressed in circumstances by their own vices, they determined to supply their wants by robbery; but their appearance being too mean to permit them to think of hiring horses, they determined to commence footpads; and committed a number of robberies in the fields north of London, frequently ill-treating those whom they robbed. Their success for some time was trifling, but being sufficient to furnish them with several offensive weapons, their depredations became more frequent, and their booties were spent, as those of thieves generally are, in the company of abandoned women.

They commonly met at an alehouse in Tottenham-court-road, and, having flushed themselves with liquor, sallied forth to assault the unoffending passenger. We now proceed to mention the fact, the commission of which cost them their lives.

On the 10th of August, 1774, they met, according to custom, at the alehouse, and having drank themselves into spirits to undertake daring exploits, they went into the fields near Primrose-hill, between London and Hampstead, when a violent shower of rain falling, they took shelter under a hedge. In the interim a gentleman named Gilson, who had been reading in a book as he strolled over the fields, came to the same spot, to avoid the violence of the shower.

When the rain abated, Mr. Gilson was going away; but the villains threatened his instant death if he hesitated to deliver his money. In the mean time Milks rifled his pockets, where finding only a few shillings, the robbers blasphemed in a horrid manner; and Mr. Gilson, apprehensive of fatal consequences,

sequences, then delivered his watch, with a guinea and some silver, which he had till then concealed.

Ten days afterwards Mr. Gilson was again near the same spot, and sitting down to read, observed the identical robbers approaching him. Knowing them well, he applied to a man-servant belonging to farmer Wellings to assist him in taking them into custody. The man hesitated, as doubting if the gentleman had been really robbed; but Mr. Wellings, being informed of the affair, directed two men to go in search of the footpads, who were soon taken, conveyed before a magistrate, and lodged in Newgate.

At the next Old Bailey sessions they were capitally convicted, and sentenced to die. After conviction, they sent to some of their former companions in iniquity; but not one would attend them. For a short time they entertained hopes of being respited; but these hopes soon vanished.

Pugh behaved penitently; but Mills much more so, answering explicitly all the questions that were asked him, confessing his guilt, and wishing for life only in the hope of making reparation to those who had been sufferers by his crimes.

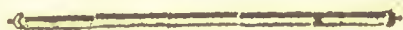
They were admitted to the sacrament on the morning of their execution; and, when their irons were knocked off, Pugh seemed almost abandoned to despondency, and at the place of execution he acknowledged the justice of his sentence. Mills acknowledged that he had committed many other robberies, the result of his attachment to women of abandoned character.

Charles Mills and John Pugh were hanged at Tyburn on the 7th of November, 1774.

The most remarkable circumstance in the case of these malefactors, is, that, after conviction, their

former abandoned acquaintance would not visit them. Thus were they left in the utmost distress in the hour of the greatest extremity!

Hence young people should learn the extreme ill consequence of keeping bad company; and that the true way to be happy, is to associate with those who have more wisdom and virtue than themselves.



Account of the Life and extraordinary Transactions of JOHN RANN, otherwise SIXTEEN STRINGS JACK, who was hanged at *Tyburn* for a Robbery on the Highway.

JOHAN RANN was born at a village a few miles from Bath, of honest parents who were in low circumstances, and incapable of giving him any kind of education. For some time he obtained a livelihood by vending goods, which he drove round the city and adjacent country on an ass.

A lady of distinction, who happened to be at Bath, took Rann into her service when he was about twelve years of age; and his behaviour was such, that he became the favourite of his mistress and fellow-servants.

At length he came to London, and got employment as a helper in the stables at Brooke's mews; in which station he bore a good character. He then became the driver of a post-chaise, after which he was servant to an officer; and in both these stations he was well spoken of.

About four years before his execution, he was coachman to a gentleman of fortune near Portman-square; and it was at this period that he dressed in
the

the manner which gave rise to the appellation of Sixteen-strings Jack, by wearing breeches with eight strings at each knee.

After living in the service of several noblemen, he lost his character, and turned pick-pocket, in company with three fellows, named Jones, Clayton, and Colledge, the latter of whom (a mere boy) obtained the name of *Eight-strings Jack*.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in April, 1774, Rann, Clayton, and one Shepherd, were tried for robbing Mr. William Somers on the highway, and acquitted for want of evidence. They were again tried for robbing Mr. Langford, but acquitted for the same reason.

For some time past, Rann had kept company with a young woman named Roche, who, having been apprenticed to a milliner, and being seduced by an officer of the guards, was reduced to obtain bread by the casual wages of prostitution; and, at length associating with highwaymen, received such valuable effects as they took on the road.

On the 30th of May, Rann was taken into custody, and being brought to Bow-street on the following Wednesday, was charged with robbing John Devall, Esq; near the nine-mile stone on the Hounslow-road, of his watch and money. This watch he had given to Miss Roche, who had delivered it to Catherine Smith, who offered it in pledge to Mr. Hallam, a pawnbroker, who, suspecting that it was not honestly obtained, caused all the parties to be taken into custody.

Miss Roche was now charged with receiving the watch, knowing it to have been stolen; and Miss Smith being sworn, deposed that, on the day Mr. Devall was robbed, Roche told her that "she expected Rann to bring her some money in the evening;"

“evening;” that he accordingly came about ten at night, and, having retired some time with Miss Roche, she, on her return, owned that she had received a watch and five guineas from him, which he said he had taken from a gentleman on the highway; that she, Miss Smith, carried the watch to pawn to Mr. Hallam, at the request of Miss Roche.

Sir John Fielding asked Rann if he would offer any thing in his defence; on which the latter said, “I know no more of the matter than you do, nor half so much neither.” On this occasion Rann was dressed in a manner above his stile of life and his circumstances. He had a bundle of flowers in the breast of his coat, almost as large as a broom; and his irons were tied up with a number of blue ribbands.

For the offence above mentioned, Rann was tried at the sessions held at the Old Bailey in July, 1774, and acquitted.

Two or three days after this acquittal, Rann engaged to sup with a girl at her lodgings in Bow-street, but not being punctual to his appointment, the girl went to bed, and Rann, not being able to obtain admittance at the door, attempted to get in at the window on the first floor, and had nearly accomplished his purpose, when he was taken into custody by the watchman.

For this burglarious attempt he was examined at Bow-street on the 27th of July, when the girl, whose apartments he had attempted to break open, declared that he could not have had any felonious intention, as he knew that he would have been a welcome guest, and have been readily admitted, if she had not fallen asleep. On this he was dismissed, after Sir John Fielding had cautioned him to leave his

his dangerous profession, and seek for some more honest means of support.

On the Sunday following, Rann appeared at Bagnigge-wells, "dressed in a scarlet coat, tambour waistcoat, white silk stockings, laced hat, &c. and publicly declared himself to be a highwayman. Having drank pretty freely, he became extremely quarrelsome, and several scuffles ensued, in one of which he lost a ring from his finger, and when he discovered his loss, he said it was but an hundred guineas gone, which one evening's *work* would replace. He became at length so troublesome, that part of the company agreed to turn him out of the house; but they met with so obstinate a resistance, that they were obliged to give up their design, when a number of young fellows, possessed of more spirit than discretion, attacked this magnanimous hero, and actually forced him through the window into the road." Rann was not much injured by this severe treatment; but he complained bitterly against those who could so affront a *gentleman* of his character.

Rann being arrested for a debt of £50, which he was unable to pay, was confined in the Marshalsea prison, where he was visited by a number of men and women of bad character, some of whom paid his debt, and procured his discharge.

At another time, Rann being with two companions at an alehouse in Tottenham-court-road, two sheriff's officers arrested Rann, who, not having money to pay the rent, deposited his watch in the hands of the bailiffs, and his associates advanced three guineas, which together made more than the amount of the debt; and as a balance was to be returned to Rann when the watch should be redeemed, he told the bailiffs that, if they would
lend

lend him five shillings, he would treat them with a crown bowl of punch. This they readily did; and, while they were drinking, Rann said to the officers, "You have not treated me like a gentleman. . . When Sir John Fielding's people come after me, they use me genteelly; they only hold up a finger, beckon me, and I follow them as quietly as a lamb."

When the bailiffs were gone, Rann and his companions rode off; but our hero, soon returning, stopped at the turnpike, and asked if he had been wanted. "No" (said the tollman). "Why," (replied the other) "I am Sixteen-strings Jack, the famous highwayman——have any of Sir John Fielding's people been this way?"—"Yes," (said the man) "some of them are but just gone through." Rann replied, "If you see again, tell them I am gone towards London;" and then rode off with the utmost unconcern.

Soon afterwards Rann appeared at Barnet races, dressed in a most elegant sporting stile, his waistcoat being blue satin trimmed with silver; and he was followed by hundreds of people, who were eager to gratify their curiosity by the sight of a man who had been so much the object of public conversation.

A very short time before Rann was capitally convicted, he attended a public execution at Tyburn, and, getting within the ring formed by the constables round the gallows, desired that he might be permitted to stand there, "for (said he) perhaps it is very proper that I should be a spectator on this occasion."

On the 26th of September, 1774, Rann and William Collier went on the Uxbridge road, with a view to commit robberies on the highway; and on
the

the Wednesday following they were examined at the public office in Bow-street, when Dr. William Bell, chaplain to the princess Amelia, deposed, that between three and four o'clock in the afternoon of Monday the 26th of September, as he was riding near Ealing, he observed two men, rather of a mean appearance, who rode past him; and that he remarked they had suspicious looks; yet neither at that time, nor for some little time afterwards, had he any idea of being robbed; that soon afterwards one of them, which he believed was Rann, crossed the head of his horse, and, demanding his money, said, "Give it me, and take no notice, or "I'll blow your brains out." On this the doctor gave him one shilling and six-pence, which was all the silver he had, and likewise a common watch in a tortoise-shell case.

On the evening of the day on which the robbery was committed, Eleanor Roche (who was kept by Rann) and her maid-servant carried a watch to pledge with Mr. Cordy, pawnbroker in Oxford-road, who, suspecting that it had not been honestly acquired, stopped it, and applied to Mr. Grignon, watchmaker in Russel-street, Covent Garden, who had made the watch for Dr. Bell.

Mr. Clarke swore, that, on going to Miss Roche's lodgings on the Monday night, he found two pair of boots wet and dirty, which had evidently been worn that day; and Mr. Haliburton swore that he waited at Miss Roche's lodgings till Rann and Collier came thither; in consequence of which they were taken into custody.

On the 5th of October, John Rann, William Collier, Eleanor Roche, and Christian Stewart, (servant to Roche) were brought to Bow-street; when Dr. Bell deposed in substance as he had done
the

the preceding week : and William Hills (servant to the princess Amelia) swore that he saw Rann (whom he well knew) ascend the hill at Acton about twenty minutes before the robbery was committed; a circumstance which perfectly agreed with Dr. Bell's account of the time that he was robbed.

Hereupon John Rann and William Collier were committed to Newgate, to take their trials for the highway robbery; Miss Roche was sent to Clerkenwell bridewell, and Christian Stewart (her servant) to Tothill-fields bridewell, to be tried as accessaries after the fact.

The evidence given on this trial was, in substance, the same as that which had been given at Bow-street; but some favourable circumstances appearing in behalf of Collier, he was recommended to mercy, and afterwards respited during the king's pleasure. Miss Roche was sentenced to be transported for fourteen years : her servant was acquitted; and Rann was left for execution.

When Rann was brought down to take his trial, he was dressed in a new suit of pea-green cloth; his hat was bound round with silver strings; he wore a ruffled shirt, and his behaviour evidenced the utmost unconcern.

Rann was so confident of being acquitted, that he had ordered a genteel supper to be provided for the entertainment of his particular friends and associates on the joyful acquittal: but their intended mirth was turned into mourning; and the madness of guilty joy, to the sullen melancholy of equally guilty grief.

When Rann received his sentence, he attempted to force a smile, but it was evident that his mind was racked with pains that no language can express.

After conviction the behaviour of this malefactor was, for some time, very improper for one in his unhappy circumstances. On Sunday the 23d of October, he had seven girls to dine with him. The company were remarkably chearful; nor was Rann less joyous than his companions.

His conduct was expressive of great unconcern, till the time that the warrant for his execution arrived; after which he began to be somewhat serious in his preparation for a future state.

On the morning of execution he received the sacrament in the chapel of the prison, and at the fatal tree behaved with great decency; but did not appear so much affected by his approaching fate as some printed accounts have represented him. When he came near the fatal tree, he turned round and looked at it as an object which he had long expected to see; but not as on one that he dreaded, as might reasonably have been expected.

After the customary devotions he was turned off, and, having hung the usual time, his body was delivered to his friends for interment.

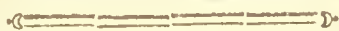
John Rann was executed at Tyburn on the 30th of November, 1774.

Rann's general character was that of a bold, ignorant fellow. He was fond of boasting of his exploits in all companies, without regard to his personal safety. He was exceedingly apt to be quarrellsome when in liquor, and fond of fighting with almost any man he might meet in the street.

Miss Roche was a girl, who, having been early seduced from the paths of virtue had lived with different men in very various ranks of life, till she at length came into the knowledge of Rann.

From the fate of this unhappy youth, let others be taught never to embark in an illicit connexion

with women of ill fame. It is the ready and certain path to destruction, from which nothing can so effectually guard young men as a steady adherence to the rules of virtue and religion*.



Account of the Trial, Conviction, and Execution, of AMOS MERRITT, who was hanged at *Tyburn*, for breaking into and robbing the House of Mr. *Ellicott*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in the month of December, 1774, Amos Merritt was indicted for breaking and entering the dwelling house of Edward Ellicott, early in the morning of the 26th of October, and robbing it of plate, a gold watch, and other valuable articles to a large amount.

Mr. Ellicott deposed that he lived in Hornsey-lane, near Highgate; that he was awakened by his wife; who enquired what noise was in the house, which

* Rann's attachment to women of ill fame was by no means extraordinary for a man in his situation. The debauched mind has no idea of the purity of real love; and it is to be lamented that we have so few books in our language calculated to inspire and direct the laudable passion. There is, however, one little pamphlet, called "The LOVER'S NEW GUIDE," which exceeds any thing of the kind that has been written in the English, or any other language. It contains very interesting letters on the subjects of love, courtship, and marriage; with dialogues, cards of compliment, and poems on the same important subjects; and, in fact, a variety of that kind of writing which is calculated to teach the passions to move at the command of virtue. Young persons cannot purchase, or parents present, a more admirable production as a *guide* in the most important concerns of human life.

which he thought proceeded from the servants moving the tables in the passage; but this Mrs. Ellicott thought could not be, from the hour of the night; and ringing the bell, both of them jumped out of bed; when the first words heard were, "Come up directly;" and then somebody said, "D— your bloods! we will murder every soul in the house." Mrs. Ellicott said, "Lord bless me, the door is open;" and running to the door, pushed it close. Mr. Ellicott gave immediate assistance; and a person who was without, who he believed from his voice was the prisoner, said, "D— you, if you do not open the door, I will murder every one of you."

The rest of the evidence was to the following effect.—The villains attempted to force open the door, putting a hanger with a scabbard between that and the post; but Mr. Ellicott, who is a powerful man, kept them out by mere strength, and having fastened the door with a drop-bolt, which went into the flooring, he ran to the window, and called out "Thieves!" In the mean time Mrs. Ellicott, by perpetual ringing of the bell, had alarmed the servants, who ran into the street after the thieves, who had by this time got off with the property.

Notice being given at Sir John Fielding's, Merritt and his accomplices were taken into custody on suspicion, and, after an examination at Bow-street, were committed to Newgate.

At the trial, the evidence was deemed so satisfactory, that the jury did not hesitate to find Merritt guilty; in consequence of which he received sentence of death.

There is nothing so extraordinary in the case of the burglary committed by Amos Merritt as to

have induced us to insert it in this collection, but on account of some singular circumstances in the conduct of the culprit, which we now proceed to recite.

On the 19th of August, 1754, three convicts, one named Madan, were carried to Tyburn, to be executed pursuant to their sentence; when Amos Merritt addressed himself to the under-sheriff, declaring that Madan was innocent of the crime for which he was about to suffer; for that he himself was the guilty person. Mr. Reynolds, the under-sheriff, desired that he would look at the prisoner, and declare the same in an audible voice. He then insisted that the man was innocent, but declined acknowledging his own guilt.

Hereupon Merritt was taken into custody, and Mr. Reynolds was dispatched by the sheriffs to the office of the Secretary of State, where he obtained a respite for Madan. On his return the execution of the other convicts took place; and Madan was re-conducted to Newgate, amidst the applause of surrounding multitudes. Immediately after this transaction, Merritt acknowledged before justice Addington, at Bow-street, that he was the person who committed the robbery for which Madan had been convicted.

On the 2d of November, 1774, John Miller, who, with Amos Merritt, and John Cals, had been apprehended for breaking open the house of Mr. Ellicott, made a full confession of that atrocious attempt, and declared that Amos Merritt, himself, and three others not then taken, were the guilty persons, and that Cals was innocent. On this, two of the villains were apprehended in Whitechapel; but as they were on the way towards prison they were rescued, the constables terribly wounded, and

and the prisoners carried off in triumph by their associates.

On the 10th of January, 1775, Amos Merritt was hanged at Tyburn, for the offence above-mentioned.

Merritt had been an old, and was a very hardened offender. We do not hear of any thing particular in his behaviour after conviction; and, as he had lived a life of guilt, he died unlamented: and, indeed, the considerate part of mankind seemed thankful that a period was put to the life of a man whose conduct had long been nothing less than a continued breach of the peace.

From the example of Merritt, let youth be taught that those who practise the ways of vice have no chance of escaping the stroke of justice. It will certainly overtake them at an earlier or later period, and an ignominious death must be the forfeit to the violated laws of their country.



Particular Account of JOHN BOLTON, who was tried and condemned for *Murder*, but laid violent Hands on himself before the Sentence of the Law could take Place.

THIS unhappy man was reputably descended, and well educated. He served for some time in the army during the late war, and was distinguished by his gallant behaviour; but was dismissed from the military line of life in consequence of the peace of 1763.

While he was in the army, and on a recruiting party in Yorkshire, he became acquainted with a young lady, who possessing a moderate estate in her

her own right, he married her after he quitted the service, and turned farmer.

By this marriage he had six children, some of whom were living at the time of his death. In this station he continued happily for about ten years, when the event took place which ended in his destruction.

Near Mr. Bolton's place of residence was the village of Ackworth, in which was a house where the poor of several parishes were maintained by contract. From this house, in the year 1768, he took as apprentices a boy named Emanuel Bowes, and a girl of ten years old, called Elizabeth Rainbow. The girl grew up in his service, and was remarkable for her beauty; a circumstance very unfortunate for herself, as it induced Mr. Bolton to seduce her, the consequence of which was that a pregnancy ensued.

When Bolton was assured that the girl was with child, he went to York and purchased a medicine, in order to procure an abortion; which medicine being administered to the young woman, she was thrown into violent convulsions; but the strength of her constitution effectually combating the potion, she advanced in her pregnancy without any appearance of having received the least injury.

Bolton, alarmed lest his intercourse with the girl should be known to his wife and family, formed the shocking resolution of murdering her who had fallen a victim to his seductive artifices: but no opportunity offered of perpetrating the horrid deed till Sunday the 21st of August, 1774.

On this day Mrs. Bolton took one of her children on a visit to a lady who lived at two miles distance; and there being no persons in the house but Emanuel Bowes, the young girl who had been seduced,

seduced, and a child of six years old, who was sick in bed, Bolton considered this as the proper time for perpetrating the crime on which he had previously resolved. He therefore sent the boy to fetch a cow-doctor, to look at a beast that was presumed to be disordered. The boy returning in about two hours, and finding the door fast, went to an adjoining field, and put a horse to grass; after which he knocked at the door, and his master letting him in, told him that "Elizabeth Rainbow had run away, and left most of her cloaths behind her."

The boy was surprised at this intelligence, and some near neighbours said that the girl had not left the house that day; and a woman, who had been to the house to pay for milk, declared that she had given the money to Rainbow; on account of the absence of her mistress.

Mrs. Bolton, returning at seven at night, observed that her husband appeared to be very uneasy, and enquired into the cause of it; to which he only answered, that the girl had gone away, and left her cloaths on a table in the dining room. Whether Mrs. Bolton was, or was not, suspicious of her husband's criminal connexion with Rainbow, is a matter of doubt; but it seems probable that she was, as a violent quarrel ensued on this occasion.

About ten days after this affair happened, the neighbours being suspicious that murder had been committed, one of them, who was a constable, went to a magistrate, who granted a warrant for the apprehension of Bolton. The latter, having heard that a warrant was issued, went to the justice, and told him, that the report intended to prejudice him was circulated with a malicious view to injure

injure his character. On this the justice told Bolton to attend him in the afternoon, when the constable would be present; instead of which Bolton went home, and, packing up some plate, set off for York, whither he was followed by the constable, who apprehended him, and carrying him before a justice of the peace, he was lodged in prison.

On the trial, which came on at the ensuing assizes, the following circumstances were discovered; viz. that when Bolton had sent the boy for the cow-doctor, he took the girl into the cellar, and strangled her with a cord which he drew round her neck, placing a knife within the cord so as to twist it to a proper tightness.

On the Monday after this affair, he directed Emanuel Bowes to wheel several barrows filled with rubbish into the cellar, as it had been overflowed with water, which furnished him with a very plausible pretence for the concealment of his guilt, which he presumed would now remain undiscovered.

At length the body of the deceased was found under the rubbish in the cellar; and the coroner's inquest, being summoned on the occasion, gave a verdict of Wilful Murder: on which Mr. Bolton was committed to the castle of York..

The evidence on his trial was deemed so conclusive, that the jury did not hesitate to find him guilty; in consequence of which he received sentence of death. During his trial, he behaved with uncommon effrontery; and when the judge had passed sentence on him, he turned to the court and declared his innocence.

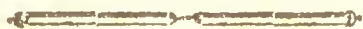
On the following day a clergyman went to him, with a charitable view to prepare his mind to enable

able him to support himself with decency in the arduous trial he had to undergo, and to prepare for the awful event that was so soon to await him.

Still, however, he persisted that he was innocent of the alledged crime; and when the officers of justice went the next morning to convey him to the place of execution, they found that, by hanging himself, he had put a period to his own existence.

This event of self-murder happened in the castle of York on the 29th of March, 1775.

There is no language in which to express our proper sense of the crimes of this unhappy man. He was first guilty of seducing a young woman from the path of virtue; he then murdered her in the fear of detection; and at length laid violent hands on himself. Such a complication of guilt must make the heart shudder; and, we trust, it cannot be necessary to write a single word to deter our readers from the commission of any of these offences.



Account of Miss JANE BUTTERFIELD, who was tried for the wilful Murder of WILLIAM SCAWEN, Esq. and acquitted.

IN pursuance of our promise to the public of inserting trials in extraordinary cases in consequence of which the parties had been acquitted, we give the following, which is very remarkable, as the presumption of guilt is the least that could possibly be imagined.

At the assizes at Croydon for the county of Surrey, on the 19th of August, 1775, Jane Butterfield

was indicted for the wilful murder of William Scawen, Esq.

The short story of this unhappy affair is as follows: Miss Butterfield was, at fourteen years of age, seduced from her father by a woman employed by Mr. Scawen, who too soon brought the young lady to a compliance with his wishes. The seduction was followed by very disagreeable consequences: the father reprobated his daughter; and his death was hastened, as she herself acknowledged, by the grief he felt for her unhappy departure from the paths of virtue.

Mr. Scawen did not appear less affected than herself at this deplorable event: he did every thing in his power to calm the mind of the young lady; promised to supply to her the place of her late parent, and faithfully discharged that duty, by taking the utmost care of her education, and studying to oblige her in every possible instance. He even, as she says, "faithfully supplied a parent's duty; he was by nature generous, and that generosity, with regard to herself, was unbounded."

Impelled by notions of gratitude, Miss Butterfield presumed that she could not be thought to have acted ungratefully by her benefactor. Her attachment to the deceased was faithful, and her care of him unremitted: she administered to his wants and infirmities, and in all respects fulfilled the tender offices of a wife, as much as if she had owed them to him under that sacred tie; and she was so diligent in her attendance, that her life was repeatedly endangered from excessive fatigue.

Mr. Scawen had been for a long time in a debilitated habit, and for the last six years could not arise or sit down without assistance; and such was the vitiated state of his body, "that he was
"obliged

“ obliged to have the assistance of Mr. Cæsar Haw-
 “ kins, the surgeon, who applied causticks to his
 “ head, which was swelled to a degree almost in-
 “ credible.”

At this time Mr. Scawen reposed such confidence in Miss Butterfield, that he would not permit any person but herself to apply the proper dressings. So violent was his disorder, that he remained blind near two years, but at length recovered his sight; and his other infirmities were greatly relieved: yet his habit of body became weaker, and those who visited him foresaw that he could not exist for any considerable time.

Mr. Scawen had consulted regular physicians till he was tired out of the hope of that relief which could not be obtained. He then had recourse to quackery, and had a perfect laboratory in his house, filled with a variety of medicines, to which he had frequent recourse for the relief of his real or imaginary complaints. His closet was stocked with Ward's and Maredant's Drops, and other medicines advertised for the cure of all complaints.

Miss Butterfield constantly advised Mr. Scawen against quackery, nor ever administered any thing to him that she conceived prejudicial to his health, or that he was disinclined to take.

In the course of the trial, the strength of the evidence against Miss Butterfield rested with Mr. Edmund Sanxay, a surgeon, who deposed, that he had been acquainted with the deceased about fifty years; that he put himself under his care; that he was much emaciated; that he said he was but just recovered from a salivation which he had been thrown into by taking quack medicines for the rheumatism; that Mr. Sanxay recommended a re-

gimen, which was observed for two days only; when Mr. Scawen came to him, and told him that in a decoction of sarsaparilla, which had been given him, he found a *brassy* taste, and that it made him very sick; that he had been frequently feverish and sick at stomach; that his mouth began to be sore, and that he apprehended he was going into another salivation.

After this Mr. Scawen was removed to Mr. Sanxay's house on the 20th of June, 1775, and died there on the 8th of July following. Mr. Sanxay declared his opinion, that Mr. Scawen did not die a natural death; but that a salivation produced by mercury was the cause of this event.

On the contrary, several surgeons, and other persons of respectable character, gave such evidence as would induce a candid mind to believe that Mr. Scawen did not die by poison, but in consequence of his debilitated habit of body, and his preposterous attachment to quack medicines, in search of that relief which was not to be reasonably expected from them.

The consequence was, that the jury, after retiring about ten minutes, brought in a verdict of "Not guilty;" and Miss Butterfield immediately set out for London, in a post-chaise that had been previously provided.

We have been the shorter in our narrative of this affair, because there did not appear to be any just ground of suspicion of the alledged crime. What were the motives of this prosecution it would not be decent in us to say. It has been intimated that Mr. Scawen had made a will greatly in favour of Miss Butterfield, and that this urged the suit against her,—Be this as it may, the generous public
will

will congratulate her, as her friends did, on her honourable acquittal!

The fatal consequences of seduction will appear evident on the consideration of this case. Miss Butterfield's father lost his life in consequence of his daughter's being drawn aside from the paths of virtue. Let this furnish a lesson of caution to men, never to be guilty of a crime with respect to the other sex, for which all their future tenderness can make no adequate compensation.



Particulars relating to REGINALD TUCKER,
who was executed for the *Murder* of his Wife.

THIS offender was a native of Hervish, near Langport, in Somersetshire. While he was in a state of infancy his father died, and he was maintained by his mother till he was about fourteen years old, when she apprenticed him to a bellows-maker in the city of Wells. He was of a morose and quarrelsome temper; but he proved an industrious servant, and continued with his master about five years, when he enlisted as a foot-soldier. Being wounded at the battle of Culloden, he was pronounced incapable of further service, and discharged; soon after which he was admitted an out pensioner of Greenwich hospital.

He went to Ansford in Somersetshire, and for some time resided with his mother, who kept an inn in that town, and occasionally worked at his business; but he was universally detested, on account of his violent, disobliging, and oppressive disposition,

disposition, which involved him in several lawsuits.

He married in the year 1750; and the money he received with his wife enabled him to open a shop in the Strand, where his ingenuity in his business procured him great success; and he obtained the premium offered by the society for the encouragement of arts, for inventing a ventilator on a new construction. A short time after he had received the premium, all his effects were destroyed by fire; but the money he received from the insurance office was supposed to be greater than the value of his goods. A rich jew lodged in Tucker's house, and at the time of the fire he lost a considerable sum of money, which Tucker was strongly suspected of having secreted; and the suspicion was greatly strengthened when it was discovered that, shortly after the accident, he went to Ansford, and purchased an estate that produced thirty pounds per annum.

At Ansford he commenced farmer, but that employment not proving so advantageous as he expected, he lett the farm at a high rent, and moved to a small house adjacent. Tucker had a son and a daughter, of whom he was exceedingly fond, but he treated his wife with shocking barbarity; and, to avoid the effects of his brutal fury, she was often under the necessity of seeking refuge among her neighbours.

His son being deceased, Tucker's family in the year 1775 consisted only of himself, his wife, and daughter. On the 8th of June, the young woman went to visit a person at about a mile distant from Ansford; and, presently after her departure, her father desired to have some pork roasted for dinner, and that, as he and his wife had appointed to spend
the

the afternoon at the house of a neighbouring farmer, it might be ready before twelve o'clock.

He employed himself in the garden till near twelve o'clock, and then his wife called him to dinner. He complained that the pork was not good, overturned the table, and beat his wife in a cruel manner. The unhappy woman made some resistance; on which Tucker took up a large hammer, and struck her with it two or three times on the back part of her head, which fractured her skull, and occasioned some blood to spring up against the ceiling. He then hid the fatal instrument with which he had perpetrated the horrid crime in the grate, and having changed his cloaths, went to the farmer's house where he had engaged to spend the afternoon. The perturbation of his mind was observed with concern and surprize by the whole family; but they entertained not the least suspicion of the melancholy cause from whence it arose.

He returned about seven o'clock in the evening, and, after having several times knocked at the door, requested the assistance of some of his neighbours, in breaking open one of the windows, pretending at the same time great surprize that he could not procure admittance. When the house was entered, the sight of the deceased created much consternation; and the husband appeared to be not less concerned and astonished than the rest.

The above-mentioned melancholy circumstance being communicated to the coroner, a jury was summoned to meet on the following day, when they brought in a verdict of "Wilful Murder, against persons unknown." In the evening several persons waited upon the coroner, and mentioned many reasons for believing Tucker to have committed

mitted the murder: in consequence of which his house was searched the next day, and the cloaths he wore at the time of perpetrating the horrid fact being found, it appeared that endeavours had been used to wash out the blood, the stains of which were still clearly discernible. He was taken into custody on suspicion of the murder, and committed to gaol in preparation for his trial at the ensuing assizes at Wells.

Tucker suborned witnesses to appear in his behalf, and two of them were guilty of perjury on his trial; and he had recourse to other stratagems, with a view of avoiding the punishment that was due to his enormous crime; but the evidence against him, though of a circumstantial nature, was so strong that the jury were fully convinced of his guilt, and he was therefore sentenced to suffer death.

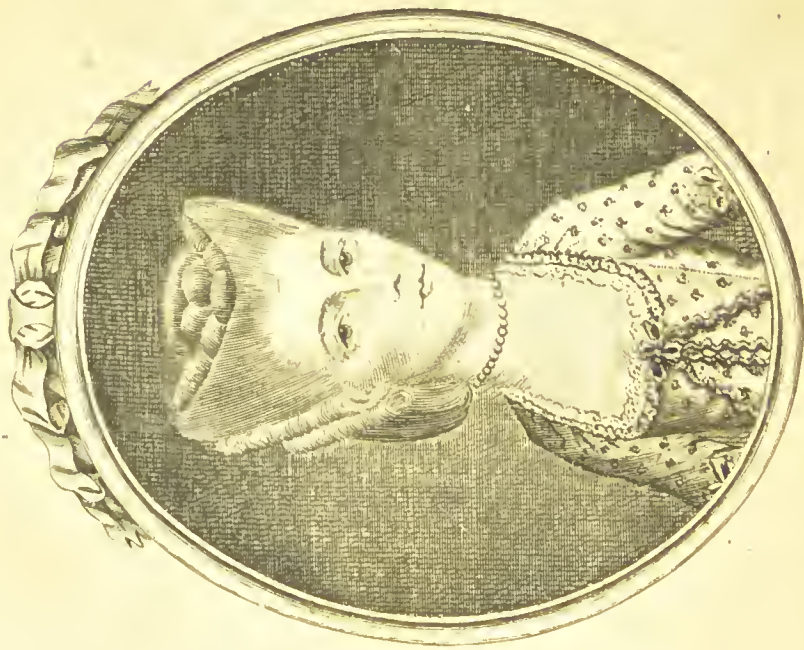
Tucker heard his sentence pronounced with great composure; and being conveyed back to prison, through the interest of his friends, he was frequently visited by two clergymen, and he prepared for the dreadful fate that awaited him in a manner that seemed to prove him perfectly resigned and penitent.

Reginald Tucker was executed at Wells in Somersetshire, on the 25th of August, 1775.

The case of this unhappy man affords a striking instance of the dangerous effects of indulging violent passions. The disagreement preceding the murder arose from a circumstance of a very trifling nature. Whether the meat was really bad, or whether he only imagined it to be so, is of little consequence; in either case there was no cause for Tucker's displeasure against his wife. When we suffer our passions to gain the ascendancy over reason,



M. ROBERT PERREAU.



M^{RS}. RUDD.



M^R. D. PERREAU.

son, we know not to what fatal extremes we may be hurried; and when we perceive the conduct of others to be really deserving censure, we should by mild remonstrance endeavour to prevent future errors of a similar nature, constantly remembering that the most unexceptionable characters cannot, in some instances, bear the test of strict enquiry, since "perfection is not the attribute of man."

An Account of the Trials and Convictions of ROBERT PERREAU, and DANIEL PERREAU, for *Forgery*, attended with very extraordinary Circumstances.

IN order to preserve, as near as possible, the chronological disposition of this work, we insert the following in this place, though the brothers Perreau were not executed till a considerable time after conviction, nor till after the acquittal of Mrs. Rudd; but it is necessary that their trials should precede that of Mrs. Rudd, as the former were in some measure productive of the latter.

On the 10th of March, 1775, discovery was made of a series of forgeries, said to have been carried on for a length of time by Robert and Daniel Perreau, twin brothers; the one an apothecary of great practice, and the other living in the stile of a gentleman.

The above parties, together with Mrs. Margaret Caroline Rudd, who lived with Daniel Perreau as his wife, and who was deemed to have been a principal agent in the forgeries, were taken into custody, and carried before the bench of magistrates in Bow-street, where the crowd attending to hear

their examination was so great, that it became necessary to adjourn to the Guildhall, Westminster.

The evidence there adduced tended to prove that the parties had raised considerable sums by bonds forged in the name of the well known agent, William Adair, Esquire, which they imposed on several gentlemen of fortune as collateral securities with their own notes for the payment of the said sums.

This transaction was discovered by the following means: Robert Perreau, whose character had been hitherto unimpeachable, applied to Mr. Drummond, the banker, to lend him £5000; and offered a bond for £7500, which he said Mr. Adair had given to his brother, as a security for the payment.

It will now be proper to remark, that, in order to give colour to the validity of these bonds, it had been artfully suggested, that Mrs. Rudd had near connexions with Mr. Adair; and it was even insinuated, that she was his natural daughter: but Mr. Drummond, to whom Mr. Adair's writing was familiar, had no sooner looked at the signature, than he doubted its authenticity, and very politely asked Robert Perreau, if he had seen Mr. Adair sign it? The latter said he had not, but had no doubt but it was authentic, from the nature of the connexion that subsisted.

To this Mr. Drummond said, that he could not advance such a sum without consulting his brother, and desired Perreau to leave the bond, promising to return it the next morning, or advance on it the sum required.

Mr. Perreau made no scruple to leave the bond, and call in the morning. In the interim Mr. Drummond examined the bond with greater attention;

tion; and Mr. Stephens, secretary of the Admiralty, happening to call, his opinion was demanded; when, comparing the signature of the bond with letters he had lately received from Mr. Adair, he was firmly convinced that it was forged.

When Perreau came, Mr. Drummond spoke more freely than he had done before, and told him that he imagined he had been imposed on; but begged that, to remove all doubt, he would go with him to Mr. Adair, and get that gentleman to acknowledge the validity of the bond; on which the money should be advanced.

Perreau made not the least objection. They went tog ther; and Mr. Adair was asked, if the bond was his. He declared it was not; but Perreau smiled, and said he jested.

Mr. Adair told him that it was no jesting matter, and that it was his duty to clear up the affair. Perreau said, "if that was the case, he had been sent on a fine errand!" He desired to have the bond, and said he would make the necessary enquiries: but this was refused, and it was thought a point of prudence to watch the motions of Robert Perreau, till Daniel and his pretended wife were produced.

Soon after he returned home, the three parties went into a coach; and, if Mrs. Rudd's testimony may be credited, she took with her what money and valuables she could conveniently carry; and said, that the brothers had taken her money, gold watch, and jewels, into their possession: but no reason was assigned for their doing so.

Their escape, however, if such was intended, was prevented; for an information being laid against them, they were apprehended, carried before Sir John Fielding, and examined at the Guildhall,

Westminster, as above-mentioned. The facts already mentioned were attested by Mr. Adair, Mr. Drummond, and other persons; and Sir Thomas Frankland charged them with obtaining from him £4000 on the first application, which they honestly repaid before the money became due; afterwards £5000, and then £4000, on similar bonds, all signed with the name of Mr. Adair.

Mr. Watson, a money-scrivener, said that he had drawn eight bonds, all of them ordered by one or other of the brothers; but he hesitated to fix on either, on account of their great personal resemblance: but being pressed to make a positive declaration, he fixed on Daniel as his employer.

Dr. Brooke charged the brothers with obtaining from him fifteen bonds of the bank of Air, each of the value of £100, upon the security of a forged bond for £3100.

On the strength of this evidence the brothers were committed, the one to New Prison, and the other to Clerkenwell Bridewell; and Mrs. Rudd was admitted an evidence for the crown.

On her future examination she declared that she was the daughter of a nobleman in Scotland; that, when young, she married an officer in the army, named Rudd, against the consent of her friends; that her fortune was considerable; that, on a disagreement with her husband, they resolved to part; that she made a reserve of money, jewels, and effects, to the amount of £13,000, all of which she gave to Daniel Perreau, whom she said she loved with the tenderness of a wife; "that she had three children by him; that he had returned her kindness in every respect till lately, when having been unfortunate in gaming in the alley, he had become uneasy, peevish, and much altered to her; " that

“ that he cruelly constrained her to sign the bond
 “ now in question, by holding a knife to her throat,
 “ and swearing that he would murder her if she
 “ did not comply; that, being struck with remorse,
 “ she had acquainted Mr. Adair with what she had
 “ done, and that she was now willing to declare
 “ every transaction with which she was acquainted,
 “ whenever she should be called upon by law so
 “ to do.”

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in June, 1775, Robert Perreau, Esq; was indicted for forging a bond for the payment of £7500, in the name of William Adair, Esq; and also for feloniously uttering and publishing the said bond, knowing it to be forged, with intention to defraud Robert and Henry Drummond, Esqrs.

After what we have mentioned above respecting this transaction, we shall be as concise as possible in the recital of the evidence. Henry Drummond, Esq; deposed, that Robert Perreau requested the loan of £1400, having made a purchase in Suffolk or Norfolk to the amount of £12,000. He said he had a house in Harley-street, Cavendish-square, which cost £4000, the deeds of which house he would leave as a security. These he did leave, and promising to return in ten days, the money was paid him. He came some time afterwards, and apologized for not having kept his appointment; and said he then came to borrow £5000 on the bond, out of which he would pay the £1400 above-mentioned.

Mr. Drummond and his brother doubting the validity of the bond, Perreau said there were family-connexions between him and Mr. Adair, who had money of his in his hands, for which he paid interest.

A great part of what Mr. Drummond delivered in evidence has been already given in the former part of this narrative. Mr. Drummond going with the prisoner to Mr. Adair's, Mrs. Daniel Perreau (Mrs. Rudd) was sent for, when Robert asked her, if she had not given the bond to him. She owned that she had, took the whole on herself, and acknowledged that she had forged the bond.

The counsel for the prisoner asking Mr. Drummond if he was certain that the prisoner said it was *his* money that Mr. Adair paid interest for, he answered in the affirmative. He declared likewise, that Mr. Perreau did not make the least objection to leaving the bond with him, nor shewed any reluctance in going with him to Mr. Adair's house.

He likewise said that Mrs. Rudd took the whole on herself, begged them, "for God's sake, to have mercy on an innocent man;" and that she said no injury was intended to any person, and that all would be paid; and that she acknowledged delivering the bond to the prisoner.

The counsel demanding if Mr. Drummond and Mr. Adair, after hearing what Mrs. Rudd said, had not expressed themselves as considering the prisoner as her dupe; the answer was, "We both expressed ourselves to that effect. A constable had been sent for, and we discharged him."

The identity of the bond was proved by Mr. Wheatley, clerk to Messieurs Drummond.—The evidence of Mr. Robert Drummond was not, in any very essential point, different from that of his brother. He deposed, that when Mrs. Rudd had acknowledged that she forged the bond, he expressed his doubt, the hand-writing being so different from that of a woman, and said nothing would convince him of it but her shewing, on a
piece

piece of paper, that she could write that sort of hand. He said he did not mean to ensnare her, and would immediately throw the writing into the fire. Mrs. Rudd instantly wrote William Adair, or part of the name, so very like the signature of the bond, that it satisfied him, and he burnt the paper. Robert Perreau then said, that “ he hoped “ that the information she had given sufficiently “ acquitted him :” but he was told that he had better not enquire into that; and on this occasion he shewed the first sign of anxiety.

Sir Thomas Frankland deposed, that the prisoner brought him two bonds at different times, one to Daniel Perreau for £6000, and the other to himself (Robert) for £5300: that for £5300, on which he lent him £4000, was to be repaid on the 26th of March, with the three days grace; the other was due on the 8th of March*.

Mr. Wilson declared that he filled up the bond at the desire of the prisoner; and produced his instructions for so doing. He likewise acknowledged that he had filled up other bonds for the prisoner.

That the hand-writing at the bottom of the bond was not the hand-writing of William Adair was proved by Scroope Ogilvie and James Adair, esquires. Mr. James Adair was now questioned by counsel respecting a private interview he had with Mrs. Rudd; but the court doubted if this might be allowed as evidence. After some observations made by the counsel for the prisoner, a
letter

* The intent of this evidence seems to have been, to shew that the money to be borrowed of Mr. Drummond was designed to repay the money actually borrowed of Sir Thomas; and that there was no intention of defrauding either of them.

letter was read. which he presumed had been sent him by William Adair, Esq; but which appeared to have been written by Mrs. Rudd, but it was scarcely intelligible.

The prisoner now proceeded to make his defence, in the following terms:—" My Lords, and
 " gentlemen of the jury, if I had been wanting in
 " that fortitude which is the result of innocence,
 " or had found any hesitation in submitting my
 " proceedings to the strictest scrutiny, I need not
 " at this day have stood before my country, or
 " set my life upon the issue of a legal trial. Sup-
 " ported by the consciousness of my integrity, I
 " have forced that transaction to light, which
 " might else have been suppressed; and I have
 " voluntarily sought that imprisonment which guilt
 " never invites, and even innocence has been known
 " to fly from; ardently looking forward to this
 " hour, as the sure, though painful, means of vindicating a character, not distinguished, indeed, for its importance, but hitherto maintained without a blemish. There are many respectable
 " witnesses at hand, (and many more, I persuade
 " myself, would be found, if it had been necessary to summon them upon a point of such notoriety) who will inform your Lordships and the
 " court, how I have appeared to them to act; what trust has been reposed in me, and what
 " credit I had in their opinions, for my diligence, honesty, and punctuality. In truth, my Lords,
 " I am bold to say that few men, in my line of life, have carried on their business with a fairer character, not many with better success. I have
 " followed no pleasures, nor launched into any
 " expences: there is not a man living who can
 " charge me with neglect or dissipation. The
 ho-

“ honest profits of my trade have afforded me a
 “ comfortable support, and furnished me with the
 “ means of maintaining, in a decent sort, a worthy
 “ wife, and three promising children, upon whom
 “ I was labouring to bestow the properest edu-
 “ cation in my power: in short, we were as happy
 “ as affluence and innocence could make us, till
 “ this affliction came upon us by surprize, and
 “ I was made the dupe of a transaction from
 “ whose* criminality I call God, the searcher of
 “ all human hearts, to witness, I am now as free
 “ as I was at the day of my birth.—My Lords,
 “ and gentlemen of the jury, men who are unprac-
 “ tised in deceit will be apt to credit others for a
 “ sincerity which they themselves possess. The
 “ most undesigning characters have at all times
 “ been the dupe of craft and subtilty. A plain
 “ story, with the indulgence of the court, I will
 “ relate, which will furnish strong instances of cre-
 “ dulity on one part, and at the same time will
 “ exhibit a train of such consummate artifices on
 “ the other, as are not to be equalled in the an-
 “ nals of iniquity, and which might have extorted
 “ an equal confidence from a much more enlight-
 “ ened understanding than I can claim.”

Having said thus much, the unhappy man pro-
 ceeded to relate a variety of circumstances relative
 to the imposition practised on him by Mrs. Rudd,
 of which the following are the most remarkable.

Vol. V. No. 45.

Z

He

* If Mr. Perreau had spoken English, he would
 have said “ from the criminality of which;” but
 we presume this must have been a mistake of the
 short-hand-writer.

He said that she was constantly conversing about the interest she had with Mr. W. Adair; and that Mr. Adair had, by his interest with the king, obtained the promise of a baronetage for Daniel Perreau, and was about procuring him a seat in Parliament. That Mr. Adair had promised to open a bank, and take the brothers Perreau into partnership with him; that the prisoner received many letters signed William Adair, which he had no doubt came from that gentleman; in which were promises of giving them a considerable part of his fortune during his life, and that he was to allow Daniel Perreau £.2,400 a year for his household expences, and £.600 a year for Mrs. Rudd's pin money. That Mr. Daniel Perreau purchased a house in Harley-Street for £.4000, which money Mr. William Adair was to give them. That, when Daniel Perreau was pressed by the person he bought the house of for the money, the prisoner understood that they applied to Mr. W. Adair, and that his answer was that he had lent the king £.70,000, and had purchased a house in Pall Mall at £.7000, in which to carry on the banking business, and therefore could not spare the £.4000 at that time.

The prisoner now related a variety of circumstances, which would tempt an ingenuous mind to suppose him innocent, and that the guilt of the transaction rested with Mrs. Rudd. The unfortunate man then proceeded in his defence in the following terms:

“ My lords, and gentlemen of the jury, I
 “ have now faithfully laid before you such cir-
 “ cumstances as have occurred to my memory, as
 “ necessary for your information, in order as they
 “ happened during my acquaintance with Mrs.
 “ Rudd,

“ Rudd, under the character of my brother’s wife.
 “ Many have been the sufferers by artifices and
 “ impostors, but never man appeared, I believe,
 “ in this, or any other tribunal, upon whom so
 “ many engines were set at work to interest his cre-
 “ dulity. It will not escape the notice of this
 “ splendid * court, that my compassion was first
 “ engaged by the story of Mrs. Rudd’s sufferings,
 “ before my belief was invited to her representa-
 “ tions. Let me have credit with you for yield-
 “ ing up by pity in the first instance, and you can-
 “ not wonder I did not withhold my credulity af-
 “ terwards. It is in this natural, this necessary
 “ consequence, I rest my defence. I was led from
 “ error to error by such insensible degrees. that
 “ every step I took strengthened my infatuation.
 “ When Mr. Drummond first hesitated at the
 “ hand-writing at the foot of the bond, if it did
 “ not so alarm me as to shake my belief in this
 “ artful woman, let it be considered that I had been
 “ prevailed upon to negotiate other bonds of hers,
 “ depositing them in the hands of bankers who
 “ had never spied any defect, or raised the least
 “ objection. These bonds have been regularly
 “ and punctually paid in due time. The let-
 “ ters sent to me, as if from William Adair,
 “ critically agreed with the hand-writing of the
 “ bond. Mr. Adair did not keep money at Mr.
 “ Drummond’s; opportunities of comparing his
 “ hand-writing for many years had not occurred,
 “ and the hesitation upon his part appeared to me
 “ no more than the exceptions and minute pre-
 “ cautions

Z 2

* *Splendid* is an awkward word on this occasion: perhaps *awful* would have been more proper.

“cautions of a banker, which could not so sud-
 “denly overturn the explicit belief that I had an-
 “nexed to all that was told me in Harley-street.
 “Can any greater proof be given than my own
 “proposal to Mr. Drummond of leaving the bond
 “in his hands till he had satisfied his credulity?
 “Can your lordships, or gentlemen of the jury,
 “for a moment suspect, that any man would be
 “guilty of such a crime, whose proceedings were
 “so fair and open? that single circumstance, I am
 “satisfied, will afford my total exculpation. The
 “refort to Mr. Adair was as easy to Mr. Drum-
 “mond; as to the books in his compting-house;
 “it does not come within the bounds of common
 “sense, much less does it fall within the possibi-
 “lity of guilt, that any man living should volun-
 “tarily, with his eyes open, take a step so directly
 “and absolutely centering in his certain destruc-
 “tion. But this circumstance, strong as it is, is
 “not all my case. I bless God, the protector of
 “innocence, that, in my defence, proofs arise upon
 “proofs: the least of them, I trust, will be
 “thought incompatible with guilt. It should
 “seem impossible that a guilty person would pro-
 “pose to Mr. Drummond to retain the bond for
 “the satisfaction of his scruples; but that the same
 “person should, after so long a time for consider-
 “ation had passed after my leaving the bond,
 “which was full twenty-four hours, openly, and
 “in the face of day, enter the shop of Mr. Drum-
 “mond, and demand if he had satisfied all his
 “scruples, unless a man from mere desperation
 “had been weary of his life, and sought a disso-
 “lution; this I humbly apprehend, would be
 “an absolute impossibility; but, my lords, and
 “gentlemen of the jury, I had neither in my
 “breast the principle of guilt, nor had I that
 “desperate

“desperate loathing of existence as should bring
 “a shameful condemnation on my head. It
 “is true I have invited this trial; but it is
 “equally true I have done it in the consciousness
 “of my integrity, because I could not other-
 “wise go through the remainder of my days with
 “comfort and satisfaction, unless I had the ver-
 “dict of my countrymen for my acquittal, and
 “rested my innocence upon the purest testimony
 “I could have on this side the grave. It is plain
 “I had an opportunity of withdrawing myself.
 “How many men are there, with the clearest
 “intentions, yet from the apprehension of be-
 “ing made the talk of the public, and, above
 “all, the dread of imprisonment, and the terror
 “of a trial, would have thought themselves happy
 “to have caught at any opportunity of saving
 “themselves from such a series of distress? greater
 “confidence can no man be in, of the inte-
 “grity of his case, and the justice of his country.
 “When it was found necessary to the designs of
 “Mrs. Rudd, that I and my family should be
 “made the dupes of her connexions with the
 “house of Adair, it may well be believed that
 “nothing but the *strongest interdictions* could
 “prevent my endeavours to obtain an inter-
 “view. In fact, this point was laboured with con-
 “summate artifice, and nothing less than ruin to
 “my brother, and his affairs was denounced
 “upon my breaking this injunction. It was
 “part of the same error to believe her in this also.
 “A respectable witness has told you and I do not
 “controvert his evidence, that my confidence in
 “her assertion, and *in the testimonials that she exhi-*
 “*bited under the hand, as I believed, of Mr. Adair,*
 “were such, in my mistaken judgment, as to
 “be equal to the evidence of my own senses,

I pressed

“ pressed by the forms of business to say to Mr.
 “ Drummond, that I had seen Mr. Adair myself;
 “ but I neither went to Mr. Adair, nor disclosed
 “ those pressing motives which prevented me. No
 “ less free to confess my faults, than I am confi-
 “ dent to assert my innocence, I seek no pallia-
 “ tion for this circumstance, except my temptation
 “ and my failings; and I trust it will rather be a
 “ matter of surprize, that, in the course of a ne-
 “ gociation, through the whole of which I was
 “ acted upon by the most artful of impostors, that
 “ this only deviation was to be found; and yet
 “ this very circumstance carries with it a clearer
 “ conviction of my being the dupe of Mrs. Rudd’s
 “ intrigues, than any-I have to offer in my de-
 “ fence; and if my subsequent proceedings, and
 “ the alacrity I shewed in going with Mr. Drum-
 “ mond to Mr. Adair, together with my conduct
 “ before this gentleman, is, as I apprehend
 “ it is, absolutely irreconcilable with a consci-
 “ ousness of guilt, the circumstances abovemention-
 “ ed will serve to shew with what a degree of
 “ credulity the artifices of Mrs. Rudd had fur-
 “ nished me.—Upon the whole, if, in the above
 “ detail, no circumstances are discovered in which
 “ an innocent man, under the like delusion with
 “ myself, might not have acted as I have acted,
 “ and, at the same time, if there be very many
 “ particulars in which no guilty man would have
 “ conducted himself as I have conducted myself, I
 “ should be wanting in respect to your Lordships
 “ and the jury, if I doubted the justice of their
 “ verdict, and which is inseparable from it, my
 “ honourable acquittal.”

The prisoner now proceeded to call his witnesses,
 the substance of whose evidence we shall give in
 the

the most concise manner. George Kinder deposed, that Mrs. Rudd told him “ that she was a
 “ near relation of Mr. James Adair; that he
 “ looked upon her as his child, had promised to
 “ make her fortune, and with that view had re-
 “ commended her to Mr. William Adair, a near
 “ relation, and intimate friend of his, who had
 “ promised to set her husband and the prisoner up
 “ in the banking business.” He likewise deposed
 that the said Mr. Daniel Perreau was to be made
 a baronet, and described how she would act when
 she became a lady. This witness deposed, that
 Mrs. Rudd often pretended that Mr. William
 Adair had called to see her, but that he never had
 seen that gentlemen on any visit.

John Moody, a livery-servant of Daniel Perreau, deposed, that his mistress wrote two very different hands, in one of which she wrote letters to his master, as from Mr. William Adair, and in the other the ordinary business of the family; that the letters written in the name of William Adair were pretended to have been left in his master's absence; that his mistress ordered him to give them to his master, and pretend that Mr. Adair had been with his mistress for a longer or shorter time, as circumstances required. This witness likewise proved that the hand at the foot of the bond and that of his mistress's fictitious writing were precisely the same † : that she used different pens, ink, and paper, in writing her common and fictitious letters; and that she sometimes gave the
 witness

† If this evidence was credited, was it not conclusive against Mrs. Rudd, and in favour of the Perreaus?

witness half a crown, when he had delivered a letter to her satisfaction. He said he had seen her go two or three times to Mr. J. Adair's, but never to William's; and that Mr. J. Adair once visited his mistress on her lying-in.

Susanna Perreau (the prisoner's sister) deposed to the having seen a note delivered to Daniel Perreau, by Mrs. Rudd, for £19,000 drawn as by William Adair, on Mr. Croft, the banker, in favour of Daniel Perreau.

Elizabeth Perkins swore that, a week before the forgery was discovered, her mistress gave her a letter to bring back to her in a quarter of an hour, and say it was brought by Mr. Coverley, who had been servant to Daniel Perreau: that she gave her mistress this letter, and her master instantly broke the seal.

Daniel Perreau declared that the purport of this letter was "that Mr. Adair desired her to apply
"to his brother, the prisoner, to procure him
"£.5000 upon his (Adair's) bond, in the same
"manner as he had done before; that Mr. Adair
"was unwilling to have it appear that the money
"was raised for him, and therefore desired to have
"the bond lodged with some confidential friend,
"that would not require an assignment of it; that
"his brother, on being made acquainted with his
"request, shewed a vast deal of reluctance, and
"said it was a very unpleasant work; but under-
"took it with a view of obliging Mr. William
"Adair."

The counsel for the prosecution demanding, "if
"he did not disclaim all knowledge of the affair
"before Mr. Adair," he said, he denied ever having seen the bond before, nor had he a perfect knowledge of it till he saw it in the hands of Mr. Adair.

David Cassady, who assisted Mr. R. Perreau as an apothecary, deposed, that he lived much within the profits of his profession, and that it was reported he was going into the banking business.

John Leigh, clerk to Sir John Fielding, swore to the prisoner's coming voluntarily to the office, and giving information that a forgery had been committed*; on which Mrs. Rudd was apprehended. Mr. Leigh was asked, if she "ever charged the prisoner with any knowledge of the transaction till the justices were hearing evidence to prove her confession of the fact." Mr. Leigh answered, that he did not recollect that circumstance, but that on her first examination she did not accuse the prisoner.

Mr. Perreau now called several persons of rank to his character. Lady Lyttleton being asked, if she thought him capable of such a crime, *supposed she could have done it as soon herself*. Sir John Moore, Sir John Chapman, General Rebow, Capt. Ellis, Capt. Burgoyne, and other gentlemen, spoke most highly to the character of the prisoner; yet the jury found him guilty.

After this copious account of the trial of Robert, a very short abstract of that of the other brother may suffice, especially as that of Mrs. Rudd is to follow.

Daniel Perreau was indicted for forging and counterfeiting a bond, in the name of William Adair, for £3300, to defraud the said William Adair; and for uttering the same, knowing it to be forged, with intent to defraud Thomas Brooke,
 Vol. V. No. 46. A a doctor

* Surely this evidence ought to have had great weight with the jury.

doctor of phyfic. Mr. Scroope Ogilvie, who had been clerk to Mr. William Adair nine or ten years, proved the forgery; and Dr. Brooke proved the uttering of the forged bond.

By way of defence, the prisoner declared that Mrs. Rudd had given him the bond as a true one; that he believed it genuine, authentic, and valid; and protested, by all his hopes of happiness in this life, and in a future, that he had never conceived an idea of any thing so base as the defrauding any man of his property. He added, “ I adjure the Almighty so to assist me in my present dangerous situation, as I speak here before you*.

Mr. Daniel Perreau called several persons to prove the artifices which Mrs. Rudd had practised to deceive him. Many persons of fortune and credit appeared to his character; and spoke of his conduct previous to the fatal event in terms of the highest approbation; but the jury brought in a verdict of guilty; and the unfortunate brothers received sentence of death, but were not executed till January 1776, because though Mrs. Rudd had been admitted an evidence, yet the judges committed her as a principal, as will be seen more at large in the account of the subsequent trial.

After conviction, the behaviour of the brothers was, in every respect, proper for their unhappy situation. Great interest was made to obtain a pardon for them, particularly for Robert, in whose favour 78 bankers and merchants of London signed a pe-

* This is an odd phrase; but so it is recorded by the short-hand-writer. Perhaps the word *truth* should have been inserted instead of *here*.

a petition to the king; the news-papers were filled with paragraphs, evidently written by disinterested persons, in favour of men whom they thought dupes to the designs of an artful woman: but all this availed nothing.

On the day of execution the brothers were favoured with a mourning coach, and it was thought that 30,000 people attended. They were both dressed in mourning, and behaved with the most christian resolution. When they quitted the coach and got into the cart, they bowed respectfully to the sheriffs, who waved their hands as a final adieu.

After the customary devotions, they crossed their hands, joining the four together, and in this manner were launched into eternity. They had not hung more than half a minute when their hands dropped asunder, and they appeared to die without pain.

Each of them delivered a paper to the ordinary of Newgate, which declared their innocence, and ascribed the blame of the whole transaction to the artifices of Mrs. Rudd; and, indeed, thousands of people gave credit to their assertions, and a great majority of the public thought Robert wholly innocent.

Daniel Perreau and Robert Perreau were executed at Tyburn on the 17th of January, 1776.

On the Sunday following the bodies were carried from the house of Robert in Golden-square, and, after the usual solemnities, deposited in the vault of St. Martin's church. The coffins were covered with black cloth and nails, and a black plate on each, inscribing their names, the day of their death, and their ages, (42) being twin brothers. They were carried in separate hearses; their friends attending in mourning coaches. The

croud was so great, that the company could with difficulty get into the church; but at length the ceremony was decently performed, and the mob dispersed.

A few reflections naturally arise on this occasion. There was great guilt somewhere; but where it lay the public will determine. One would imagine that if Robert Perreau had been guilty, he would not have returned to Drummond's, nor went to Adair's, after being suspected. Charity will suppose that he fell a victim to his friendship for his brother, and lost his life through the telling of a lye; a strong argument for a strict adherence to truth in all we say.

A very ingenious writer on this subject says,
 “ Upon a dispassionate view of the above trial,
 “ is it not possible that the plausible promises of an
 “ artful impostor, aided by the vain hope of being
 “ made rich and great by her pretended connex-
 “ ions, may have operated on a credulous, though
 “ otherwise sensible mind; like as a gypsey's tale
 “ is frequently found to do on weak and unsus-
 “ pecting women? If so, it will naturally account
 “ for the absurdity of the prisoner's pretending an
 “ acquaintance with Mr. William Adair, whom he
 “ had never seen, and was strictly enjoined not to
 “ see; and for all the fallacious pretences that
 “ followed.”

After this quotation, we shall say no more on this business, but proceed to the trial of Mrs. Rudd.





M^{rs}. Margaret Caroline Rudd.



Goldstein :

Fildes sculp.

MR^S MARGARET CAROLINE RUDD on her TRIAL
at the New Sessions House, in the Old Bailey

Account of the Trial and Acquittal of MARGARET CAROLINE RUDD, on a Charge of *Forgery*.

ON the 16th of September, 1775, Mrs. Rudd was put to the bar at the Old Bailey, to be tried for forgery; but the counsel for the prisoner pleading that, as she had been already admitted an evidence for the crown, it was unprecedented to detain her for trial, and the judges differing in opinion on the point of law, she was remanded to prison, till the opinion of the judges could be taken on a subject of so much importance.

On the 8th of December, 1775, Margaret Caroline Rudd was indicted for feloniously forging a bond, purporting to be signed by William Adair, and for feloniously uttering and publishing the same.

Having been brought to the bar in September sessions, to plead to the said indictment, and her counsel contending that she ought not to be tried, as she had acknowledged herself an accomplice, and had been admitted an evidence by the magistrates; and the judges “differing in opinion on the point of law; reference was had to the opinion of all the judges, that the matter might be finally settled, how far, under what circumstances, and in what manner, an accomplice, received as a witness, ought to be entitled to favour and mercy.”

Mr. justice Aston now addressed the prisoner, informing her that eleven of the judges had met (the chief justice of the Common Pleas being indisposed) “and were unanimous in opinion, that, in cases not within any statute, an accomplice, who

“ who fully discloses the joint guilt of himself and
 “ his companions, and is admitted by justices of
 “ the peace as a witness, and who appears to have
 “ acted a fair and ingenuous part in the disclosure
 “ of all the circumstances of the cases in which he
 “ has been concerned, ought not to be prosecuted
 “ for the offences so by him confessed, but cannot
 “ by law plead this in bar of any indictment, but
 “ merely as an equitable claim to mercy from the
 “ crown: and nine of the judges were of opinion,
 “ that all the circumstances relative to this claim
 “ *ought* to be laid before the court, to enable the
 “ judges to exercise their discretion, whether the
 “ trial should proceed or not. With respect to
 “ the case before them, the same nine judges were
 “ of opinion, that if the matter stood singly upon
 “ the two informations of the prisoner, compared
 “ with the indictments against her, she ought to
 “ have been tried upon all, or any of them, for
 “ from her informations she is no accomplice:
 “ she exhibits a charge against Robert and Daniel
 “ Perreau, the first soliciting her to imitate the
 “ hand-writing of William Adair, the other forcing
 “ her to execute the forgery under the threat of
 “ death. Her two informations are contradictory:
 “ if she has suppressed the truth, she has no equi-
 “ table claim to favour; and if she has told the
 “ truth, and the whole truth, she cannot be con-
 “ victed. As to the indictments preferred against
 “ her by Sir Thomas Frankland, as her informa-
 “ tions before the justices have no relation to his
 “ charges, she can claim no sort of advantage from
 “ these informations.”

The trial was now proceeded on. The principal
 evidences were, the wife of Robert Perreau, and
 John Moody a servant to Daniel. The first endea-
 voured.

voured to prove that the bond was published the latter that it was forged. Sir Thomas Francis proved that he had lent money on the bond. It was objected by the counsel for the prisoner, that Mrs. Perreau was an incompetent witness, as she would be interested in the event; but the court over-ruled this objection.

Mrs. Perreau deposed, that, on the 24th of December, she saw Mrs. Rudd deliver a bond to her husband, which he laid on the table while he brushed his coat; that it was for £5300, payable to Robert Perreau, and signed William Adair; and that it was witnessed in the names of Arthur Jones and Thomas Start, or Hart. Mr. Perreau being asked when she again saw the bond, said it was brought to her on the 8th of March, (the day after her husband was convicted) when she selected it from other bonds delivered to him on the 24th of December. She made her mark on it, and deposed that, when it was delivered to Mr. Perreau, Mrs. Rudd said, "Mr. Adair would be very much obliged to Mr. Perreau to try to raise upon that bond the sum of £4000 of Sir Thomas Frankland."

Serjeant Davy cross-examined Mrs. Perreau. She acknowledged that till the 24th of December she had never seen a bond in her life, and that, on her first sight of that in question, she had no suspicion "that any thing was wrong." Being asked how she could recollect, at the distance of three months, the names, the sum, and the several circumstances respecting the bond, she said, "I have the happiness to have a good memory." Being asked if she had not examined the other bonds at the same time, she said she had. It was demanded if her memory had retained the date or
sum

sum in any other paper produced to her. She replied, "I do not remember."

John Moody, who had been servant with Mrs. Rudd, deposed that his mistress wrote two different hands, a common and a feigned one; that in her common hand she noted the usual business of the house; but that when she wrote letters, as coming from William Adair, she wrote her feigned hand. A bond signed William Adair was now shewn him; and he said, "the name appears to be the same hand the letters were wrote in, which I gave to Daniel Perreau, as coming from Mr. William Adair, and which I saw Mrs. Rudd write the directions of." He was asked if he thought Mr. Adair's name was of the prisoner's writing. He replied, "I believe it is her hand-writing."

On his cross-examination, he owned that he had never seen Mrs. Rudd write Mr. Adair's name.*

Thus stood the evidence. Sir Thomas Frankland proved the lending Robert Perreau £4000 on the bond in question, and that he had given him "a draft for £3890, deducting the discount of £5000 formerly lent, with the discount of the money then borrowed, and 15*l.* 10*s.* for a lottery ticket: that he had since received, among other things, jewels to the value of £2800, with women's wearing apparel, &c. which might, for what he knew, be the prisoner's, but were sold to him by the two Perreaus by a bill of sale.

Christian Hart deposed, that she had received a paper from the prisoner, tending to prove that there

* No doubt this was true.—If she wrote it at all, she had too much art to let a servant be witness of such a transaction.

there was a combination against her life, to have been concerted at the house of this witness, by Sir Thomas Frankland and the friends of the Perreaus. Our readers will give what credit they please to this evidence.

It was now demanded of Mrs. Rudd, what she would say in her defence. She addressed the jury in a short, but sensible speech, and concluded in these words, "Gentlemen, ye are honest men, and I am safe in your hands."

The jury, after a short consultation, gave their verdict in the following singular, and perhaps unprecedented words: "*According to the evidence before us, NOT GUILTY.*"

The verdict was no sooner given, than Mrs. Rudd quitted the court, and retired to the house of a friend at the west end of the town.

There is a mystery in the story of the brothers Perreau, and Mrs. Rudd, that no person but the latter can clear up. We are told that she is yet living*; but we hope that, before she quits this world, she will discover the secrets of a transaction concerning which the public opinion has been so much divided. The Perreaus were guilty, or they were not; and it is only from Mrs. Rudd the truth can be known. A declaration of the fact, if she *was* guilty, could not now affect her, as she was acquitted by the laws of her country.

* In March, 1793.



An authentic Account of the Proceedings in the House of Peers on the Trial of ELIZABETH DUTCHESS of KINGSTON, for *Bigamy*.

ABOUT nine o'clock in the morning of Monday the 15th of April, 1776, the peeresses, foreign ambassadors, &c. concluded the ceremony of assuming their respective places in Westminster hall; and at half past ten her Majesty, accompanied by the prince of Wales, the bishop of Osnaburgh, two other young princes, and the princess royal, and attended by lord and lady Holderness, lord Hinchinbroke, and others of the nobility, entered the hall from the duke of Newcastle's house in New Palace Yard, and took her seat in the centre of his grace's gallery.

The procession came into the hall in the following order, at a quarter past eleven: the eldest sons of peers, preceded by the domestics of the lord high steward, masters in chancery, king's serjeants and judges, barons, bishops, viscounts, earls, marquesses and dukes; the serjeant at arms, the lord high steward, with black rod on his right, and garter on his left; the lord president, and the lord privy-seal. The barons proceeded to their seats next the bar, the junior barons taking the left hand seat next the bar, and the other barons following in that order till the seats were filled in the front of the court. The archbishops and bishops occupied the side benches on the right, and the dukes the benches extending from the throne to the table.

The persons who composed the court having taken their seats with the usual formalities, the lord high steward directed the clerk of the crown to read

read the *certiorari*, the return thereof, the caption of the indictment, the indictment itself, and other official papers; which being done, the serjeant at arms made proclamation for the usher of the black rod to place the prisoner at the bar.

The dutchess then came forward, attended by Mrs. Egerton, Mrs. Barrington, and Miss Chudleigh, three of the ladies of her bedchamber, and her chaplain, physician, and apothecary; and as she approached the bar she made three reverences, and then dropped on her knees, when the lord high steward said, “Madam, you may rise.” Having risen, she curtsied to the lord high steward and the house of peers; and her compliments were returned.

Proclamation being made for silence, the lord high steward mentioned to the prisoner the fatal consequences attending the crime of which she stood indicted, signifying that, however alarming and awful her present circumstances, she might derive great consolation from considering that she was to be tried by the most liberal, candid, and august assembly in the universe.

The dutchess then read a paper, setting forth that she was guiltless of the offence alledged against her, and that the agitation of her mind arose not from the consciousness of guilt, but from the painful circumstance of being called before so awful a tribunal on a criminal accusation; begging, therefore, that if she was deficient in the observance of any ceremonial points, her failure might not be understood as proceeding from wilful disrespect, but be attributed to the unfortunate peculiarity of her situation. It was added in the paper, that she had travelled from Rome in so dangerous a state of health, that it was necessary for her to be conveyed

in a litter; and that she was perfectly satisfied that she should have a fair trial, since the determination respecting her cause, on which materially depended her honour and fortune, would proceed from the most unprejudiced and august assembly in the world.

The lord high steward desired the lady to give attention while she was arraigned on an indictment for bigamy. Proclamation for silence being made, the dutchess (who had been permitted to sit) arose, and read a paper, representing to the court that she was advised by her counsel to plead the sentence of the ecclesiastical court in the year 1769, as a bar to her being tried on the present indictment. The lord high steward informed her that she must plead to the indictment; in consequence of which she was arraigned; and, being asked by the clerk of the crown whether she was guilty of the felony with which she stood charged, she answered with great firmness, "Not guilty, my lords." The clerk of the crown then asking her how she would be tried, she said, "by God and her peers;" on which the clerk said, "God send your ladyship a good deliverance."

The serjeant at arms made proclamation for all persons who had evidence to produce against the prisoner to appear. The lord high steward requested, that, as his seat was so distant from the bar, he might be allowed, for the convenience of hearing, to go to the table; to which the court readily acquiesced.

Mr. Dunning, in a concise speech, opened the pleadings in support of the prosecution. He was followed by Mr. Thurlowe, the attorney general, who learnedly animadverted on the plea advanced by the prisoner, and said that, being counsel for
the

the prosecution, it became his duty to declare his opinion on the case in question, which was, that he could not discover any reasonable foundation for the plea urged by the prisoner; and he desired that, if there were reasons sufficient to support it, they might be produced by the counsel on the opposite side.

Lord Mansfield moved, that a proper officer from Doctors Commons might read the sentence of the ecclesiastical court. Hereupon the attorney general said that it would be necessary for all the allegations, replications, &c. on which the sentence was founded, to be read; and the clerk of the crown read the allegations; and was proceeding with the replications, when lord Mansfield observed, that it would not be necessary to read the latter papers, since the counsel, in the course of their pleadings, would introduce the material arguments therein contained.

Mr. Wallace rose to reply to the attorney general, and in an eloquent strain of forcible argument endeavoured to prove the determination of the ecclesiastical court to be conclusive. Mr. Wallace was followed by Mr. Mansfield, who displayed great ingenuity and learning in support of the same doctrine.

Doctor Calvert, a civilian, spoke nearly for the space of two hours, and produced many precedents to prove the sentence of the consistory court to be definitive and irrevocable. The same ground of argument was pursued by Dr. Wynne, another civilian, who also quoted several cases in point in behalf of the Dutchess; and on the conclusion of this gentleman's speech the court was adjourned on the motion of lord Gower.

The business of the second day was opened by the lord high steward, who desired the counsel for her Grace to reply to the arguments advanced on the preceding day against evidence being admitted in support of the prosecution.

The attorney general entered upon a minute examination of the pleadings on the other side, and endeavoured to confute the arguments of the counsel and civilians, and to prove that the cases they had quoted were ill applied, and undeserving authority. This gentleman spoke about an hour and twenty minutes.

The solicitor general then arose, and delivered a learned and elaborate speech, wherein he was extremely severe on the consistory court, saying he could not allow authority to that doctrine which puts the decisions of that court above the cognizance of the temporal ones. He said, that if the sentences of the ecclesiastical court were to be deemed conclusive, persons addicted to indulge a disposition to variety might each, by the exercise of industry and ingenious collusion, gratify his passions with seventy-five wives before attaining his thirtieth year. His witty and humorous allusions frequently provoked a general laugh at the expence of Doctors Commons; and he concluded with giving it as his opinion, that the supreme court of legislature was invested with an indisputable power of reversing the decisions of the consistory courts. Mr. Dunning spoke next, strongly supporting the arguments of the solicitor general, and producing several authorities from the law-books in justification of his opinion, that the plea could not be admitted as a bar against calling evidence to prove the criminality of the prisoner.

Doctor Harris, a civilian, rose in behalf of the prosecution; and, taking an extensive view of the pleadings of the Doctors Calvert and Wynne, exerted his utmost power to prove them nugatory.

Lord Talbot then addressed the court, observing, that as the matter in agitation was of the utmost importance, both to the noble prisoner, and the right honourable court in general, the pleadings on both sides could not be weighed with too minute an attention; and lest the memory should be encumbered (candidly acknowledging that he had already heard more than he believed his mind would retain) he moved for the court to adjourn to the chamber of parliament. Hereupon the lord high steward came from the table to the throne, and requested to be informed whether it was the pleasure of the house to adjourn; and the question being put, it passed in the affirmative.

On Friday the 19th of April Mr. Wallace was called upon by the lord high steward to reply in behalf of the prisoner. Lord Ravensworth then begged he might propose a question to the counsel at the bar. His lordship's question was, "Is the sentence of the ecclesiastical court in this case final and conclusive, or is it not?" Upon this lord Mansfield said, "If the noble lord means—Is there any precedent for reversing the sentence of the ecclesiastical court? the answer must certainly be in the negative. As to any other meaning, the question is in debate among the counsel at the bar, and has been so these three days."

Mr. Wallace then largely expatiated in support of his former cases, and pleaded powerfully in refutation of the arguments advanced by the counsel on the opposite side, producing many other cases in point,

point, and urging that they were incontrovertible. The next speaker was Dr. Calvert, who pleaded very ably in support of the power of the ecclesiastical court: he concluded with insisting that the sentence of the consistory court was indisputably a legal plea in bar of evidence being produced against the prisoner.

It being intimated that the counsel for the Dutchess had concluded their replies, a motion was made by lord Gower for adjourning to the parliament chamber, and for allowing her Grace permission to retire to her apartment till the peers should return into court; upon which the lord high steward adjourned the court about half past three o'clock.

The peers having taken their seats in the parliament chamber, lord Camden proposed the following questions to the judges:—"Whether it was
 "their opinion that the court had power to call
 "evidence in support of the prosecution? or whether they deemed the sentence of the ecclesiastical court conclusive and irrevocable? and whether the prosecutor could or could not proceed
 "in this court against the prisoner for obtaining
 "the decision of the consistory court by collusion
 "and fraud?" The opinion of the judges was,
 "That in either case the prosecutor was authorised
 "to enter into evidence in support of the indictment on which the prisoner stood arraigned."

In consequence of the above determination, the house, after having withdrawn for about half an hour, returned into court; and the lord high steward informed the attorney-general, that he was directed by their lordships to order him to proceed with the trial.

Mr. Attorney then explained the nature of the evidence he meant to produce, and recapitulated a
 great

great number of facts and circumstances from the year 1742, previous to the supposed marriage of her Grace with Mr. Hervey, to the time of her marriage with the late duke of Kingston.

The solicitor general rose to examine the witnesses, and Anne Craddock being called to the bar, the duke of Richmond observed, that it would be proper for her to stand at a greater distance from the prisoner, and, after some debate on this head, Mr. Quarme, deputy usher of the black rod, was placed between them. One of the clerks of the house put the questions from the counsel, and delivered the answers of the witness with an audible voice.

The evidence of Anne Craddock was to the following purpose:—I have known her Grace the dutchess of Kingston ever since the year 1742; at which time she came on a visit to Mr. Merrill's, at Launceston in Hampshire, during the Winchester races. At that time I lived in the family of Mrs. Hanmer, Miss Chudleigh's aunt, who was then on a visit at Mr. Merrill's, where Mr. Hervey and Miss Chudleigh first met, and soon conceived a mutual attachment towards each other. They were privately married one evening about eleven o'clock in Launceston church, in the presence of Mr. Mountney, Mrs. Hanmer, the Rev. Mr. Ames, the rector, who performed the ceremony, and myself. I was ordered out of the church, to entice Mr. Merrill's servants out of the way. I saw the bride and bridegroom put to bed together; and Mrs. Hanmer obliged them to rise again: they went to bed together the night following. In a few days Mr. Hervey was under the necessity of going to Portsmouth, in order to embark on board Sir John

Danvers's fleet, in which he was a lieutenant; and being ordered to call him at five o'clock in the morning, I went into the bed-chamber at the appointed hour, and found him and his lady sleeping in bed together, and was unwilling to disturb them, thinking the delay of an hour or two would not be of any consequence. My husband, to whom I was not married till after the time I have mentioned, accompanied Mr. Hervey in the capacity of his servant. When Mr. Hervey returned from the Mediterranean, his lady and he lived together. I then thought her in a state of pregnancy. Some months after Mr. Hervey went again to sea, and during his absence I was informed that the lady was brought to bed. She herself told me she had a little boy at nurse, and that his features greatly resembled those of Mr. Hervey.

The duke of Grafton asked the witness, whether she had seen the child? and she answered in the negative. His Grace also asked, whether, as the ceremony was performed at night, there were any lights in the church? In reply to which she said, Mr. Mountney had a wax light fixed to the crown of his hat. In reply to questions proposed by lord Hillsborough, the witness acknowledged that she had received a letter from Mr. Fossard, of Piccadilly, containing a promise of a sinecure place, on condition of her appearing to give evidence against the lady at the bar, and expressing that if she thought proper she might shew the letter to Mr. Hervey.

On Saturday the 20th of April Anne Craddock was further examined. The lords Derby, Hillsborough, Buckinghamshire, and others, questioning her whether she had not been promised a reward by the prosecutor, on condition of her giving evidence

evidence to convict the prisoner; her answers were evasive, but she was at length brought to acknowledge that pecuniary offers had been made to induce her to give evidence in support of the prosecution.

Mrs. Sophia Pettiplace, sister to lord Howe, was next examined; but her evidence was of no consequence. She lived with her Grace at the time when her supposed marriage took place with Mr. Hervey, but was not present at the ceremony; and she only believed that the Dutchess had mentioned the circumstance to her.

Cæsar Hawkins, Esq; deposed, that he had been acquainted with the Dutchess several years, he believed not less than thirty. He had heard of a marriage between Mr. Hervey and the lady at the bar, which circumstance was afterwards mentioned to him by both parties, previous to Mr. Hervey's last going to sea. By the desire of her Grace he was in the room when the issue of the marriage was born, and once saw the child. He was sent for by Mr. Hervey soon after his return from sea, and desired by him to wait upon the lady with proposals for procuring a divorce, which he accordingly did, when her Grace declared herself absolutely determined against listening to such terms; and he knew that many messages passed on the subject. Her Grace some time after informed him, at his own house, that she had instituted a jactitation suit against Mr. Hervey in Doctors Commons. On another visit she appeared very grave, and desiring him to retire into another apartment, said she was exceedingly unhappy, in consequence of an oath, which she had long dreaded, having been tendered to her at Doctors Commons, to disavow her marriage, which she would not do for ten thousand

C c 2

worlds.

Upon another visit, a short time after, she informed him, that a sentence had passed in her favour at Doctors Commons, which would be irrevocable, unless Mr. Hervey pursued certain measures within a limited time, which she did not apprehend he would do. Hereupon he enquired how she got over the oath; and her reply was, that the circumstance of her marriage was so blended with falsities, that she could easily reconcile the matter to her conscience; since the ceremony was a business of so scrambling and shabby a nature, that she could as safely swear she was *not*, as that she *was* married.

Judith Phillips being called, swore, that she was the widow of the reverend Mr. Ames; that she remembered when her late husband performed the marriage ceremony between Mr. Hervey and the prisoner; that she was not present, but derived her information from her husband; that some time after the marriage the lady desired her to prevail upon her husband to grant a certificate, which she said she believed her husband would not refuse; that Mr. Merrill, who accompanied the lady, advised her to consult his attorney from Worcester; that, in compliance with the attorney's advice, a register-book was purchased, and the marriage inserted therein, with some late burials in the parish. The book was here produced, and the witness swore to the writing of her late husband.

The writing of the reverend Mr. Ames was proved by the reverend Mr. Inchin, and the reverend Mr. Dennis; and the entry of a caveat to the duke's will was proved by a clerk from Doctors Commons. The book in which the marriage of the duke of Kingston with the lady at the bar was registered on the 8th of March, 1769, was

produced by the reverend Mr Trebeck, of St. Margaret's, Westminster; and the reverend Mr. Samuel Harpur, of the Museum, swore, that he performed the marriage ceremony between the parties on the day mentioned in the book produced by Mr. Trebeck.

Monday the 22d of April, after the attorney-general had declared the evidence in behalf of the prosecution to be concluded, the lord high steward called upon the prisoner for her defence, which she read; and the following are the most material arguments it contained, to invalidate the evidence adduced by the prosecutor:—she appealed to the Searcher of all hearts, that she never considered herself as legally married to Mr. Hervey; she said that she considered herself as a single woman, and as such was addressed by the late duke of Kingston; that, influenced by a legitimate attachment to his Grace, she instituted a suit in the ecclesiastical court, where her supposed marriage with Mr. Hervey was declared null and void; but, anxious for every conscientious as well as legal sanction she submitted an authentic state of her case to the archbishop of Canterbury, who, in the most decisive and unreserved manner, declared that she was at liberty to marry, and afterwards granted, and delivered to doctor Collier, a special licence for her marriage with the late duke of Kingston. She said that, on her marriage, she experienced every mark of gracious esteem from their majesties, and her late royal mistress, the princess dowager of Wales, and was publicly recognized as dutchess of Kingston. Under such respectable sanctions and virtuous motives for the conduct she pursued, strengthened by a decision that had been esteemed conclusive and irrevocable for the space of seven centuries, if their lordships should deem
her

her guilty, on any rigid principle of law, she hoped, nay she was conscious, they would attribute her failure as proceeding from a mistaken judgment and erroneous advice, and not censure her for intentional guilt.

She bestowed the highest encomiums on the deceased duke, and solemnly assured the court, that she had in no one instance abused her ascendancy over him; and that, so far from endeavouring to engross his possessions, she had declared herself amply provided for by that fortune for life which he was extremely anxious to bequeath in perpetuity. As to the neglect of the duke's eldest nephew, she said it was entirely the consequence of his disrespectful behaviour to her; and she was not dissatisfied at a preference to another nephew, whose respect and attention to her had been such as the duke judged to be her due, in consequence of her advancement to the honour of being the wife of his uncle.

The lord high steward desired Mr. Wallace to proceed with the evidence. The advocate stated the nature of the evidence he meant to produce, to prove that Anne Craddock had asserted to different people, that she had no recollection of the marriage between Mr. Hervey and the lady at the bar; and that she placed a reliance on a promise of having a provision made for her in consequence of the evidence she was to give on the present trial; and, to invalidate the depositions of Judith Phillips, he ordered the clerk to read a letter, wherein she supplicated her Grace to exert her influence to prevent her husband's discharge from the duke's service; and observed, that Mrs. Phillips had, on the preceding day, sworn, that her husband was not dismissed, but voluntarily quitted his station in the household of his Grace.

Mr,

Mr. Wallace called Mr. Berkley, lord Bristol's attorney, who said his lordship told him he was desirous of obtaining a divorce, and directed him to Anne Craddock, saying she was the only person then living who was present at his marriage; and that, a short time previous to the commencement of the jactitation suit, he waited upon Anne Craddock, who informed him that her memory was bad, and that she could remember nothing perfectly in relation to the marriage, which must have been a long time before.

Anne Pritchard deposed, that about three months had elapsed since being informed by Mrs. Craddock that she expected to be provided for soon after the trial, and of being enabled to procure a place in the custom-house for one of her relations.

The lord high steward addressed himself to the court; saying, that their lordships had heard the evidence on both sides, and that the importance and solemnity of the occasion required that they should severally pronounce their opinions in the absence of the prisoner, observing that the junior baron was to speak first.—Their lordships declared the prisoner to be guilty.

Proclamation being made for the usher of the Black-rod to bring the prisoner to the bar, she no sooner appeared than the lord high steward informed her that the lords had maturely considered the evidence adduced against her, and likewise all that had been advanced in her favour, and had pronounced her guilty of the felony for which she was indicted. He then requested whether she had any thing to urge against judgment being pronounced. Hereupon the lady delivered a paper, containing the following words, to be read by the clerk:

“ I plead the privilege of the Peerage.”

After this the lord high steward informed her Grace, that the lords had considered the plea, and agreed to allow it; adding words to this effect, “ Madam, you will be discharged on paying the usual fees.”

The lady appeared to be perfectly composed and recollected during the greatest part of her long and important trial; but when sentence was pronounced she fainted, and was carried out of court.

Sentence was pronounced upon Elizabeth Dutchess of Kingston on Monday the 22d of April, 1776.

Some years subsequent to the transaction on which the above trial was founded, the legislature made ample provision against every species of clandestine and collusive marriages; and therefore we shall, contrary to our usual practice, wave the introduction of concluding remarks, since there can be no necessity for dissuatives against crimes that can be no longer committed.



A Narrative of the singular Cases of BENJAMIN BATES, and JOHN GREEN, who were convicted of *Burglary*, repeatedly Respited, and at length Pardoned.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in the month of May, 1776, Benjamin Bates and John Green were indicted for breaking and entering the dwelling-house of James Penleaze, Esq; on the night of the 20th of April preceding, and stealing

stealing a variety of valuable articles, principally plate, to the amount of between four and five hundred pounds.

Mrs. Penleaze swore that the windows were constantly barred and keyed every night; that the house was broke open; that she heard somebody trying to open the chamber-door; that she alarmed her husband; but the door was forced open, and four men immediately entered the room, one of whom had a dark lanthorn in his hand, and another a bit of gauze over his mouth, tied behind his head; that two of them got on the bed, and came almost close to her; that one of these men was green, of whom she had a perfect view; that Bates was on Mr. Penleaze's side of the bed; that the other two went, one on each side, to the head of the bed, one of whom held a pistol to her head, and the other held a cutlass before her; and that four pistols were held to the heads of her and her husband; that they said, "they came for money, and would have it;" and that "they would not have notes, but *only* money."

She farther deposed, that they asked what money was in the house. Mr. Penleaze directed them to a slab in the next room; but this deponent, recollecting that their valuable effects were in that room, directed them to another, in the hope that some person would come to their relief. Three of them went out of the room, and one of them staid behind, guarding her with a pistol and cutlass at her head.

On their demanding where the money lay, Mr. Penleaze said on the slab in the room on the right hand, and that his son had received a small sum on the preceding day, which he had not accounted for. The thieves enquiring where the son slept,

were directed up one pair of stairs higher : on which two of them quitted the room, but did not go into that of young Mr. Penleaze, but returned and just looked into the chamber of the parents.

The door of the study was soon afterwards broke open, and Mrs. Penleaze heard the rattling of plate, as if it was packing up. The prisoners were soon afterwards apprehended, and carried before Justice Wilmot, who committed them for trial.

Mr. Penleaze swore to his house being broke open, and to his loss; but, as he was near-sighted, he would not swear to the parties, though he believed Bates had presented a pistol to his head as he lay in bed.

There was some collateral evidence of a servant, and another woman, respecting this affair; and the jury gave a verdict of guilty against the prisoners, though a number of persons appeared to testify to the goodness of their characters.

We do not mean, by what has been here said, to censure the verdict of the jury : undoubtedly they thought the evidence before them sufficient to convict the prisoners; but this short tale is inserted to shew the fallibility of all human evidence; for Bates and Green were not the men who committed this robbery, as will appear in the sequel.

The writer of this narrative happened by mere accident to fall into company with one of the peace officers employed by the keeper of Clerkenwell Bridewell. The situation of Bates and Green was mentioned, and, for reasons then adduced, supposed to be a very hard one. The writer was struck with the circumstance, and inserted various paragraphs in the news-papers in favour of the unfortunate men. The consequence was, that they

they were respited from time to time. When one respite was nearly expired, another was solicited for; and at length Bates and Green received his majesty's free pardon; but not till a person who was executed in the country had confessed that himself and some accomplices were guilty of the robbery at the house of Mr. Penleaze, and that the convicted parties were innocent.

There cannot be a doubt but Mrs. Penleaze believed herself certain of the parties against whom she swore; but it is certain that she was mistaken. The parties accused were of the fairest character, and Bates in particular remarkable for the singular inoffensiveness of his disposition. The inferences to be drawn from this story are, that persons giving evidence should be extremely cautious in swearing to the identity of a prisoner; and juries should be equally cautious of yielding implicit belief to evidence, however positive, unless it be attended with collateral proof of guilt in the party accused.

On this occasion Britons have cause to triumph in the LIBERTY OF THE PRESS. If News-papers had not been printed in this country, the lives of two honest men would have been sacrificed to the rigour of the laws, yet no party concerned have been the least to blame. The ways of Providence are mysterious; casual circumstances frequently produce great effects; and a life may be saved or lost by an accident apparently beneath the notice of a common observer.



Account of the Trial of BARNARD CHRISTIAN
DE NASSAW DEITZ, for a *Misdemeanor*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in December. 1776, the prisoner above-mentioned was indicted for causing to be engraved and cut in mezzotinto, on a plate of copper, a blank promissory note, containing the word *twenty* in white letters, on a black ground, he not being an officer, workman, servant or agent, of the governor and company of the bank of England.

Mr. Joshua Long deposed that he was a copper-plate-printer in St. Martin's le Grand; that the prisoner came to him to engrave a copper-plate; that he gave him directions how it should be engraved; that he first said he wanted a £10, and then a £20, expressed.

Deitz gave Mr. Long some fine thin paper, cut to the size proper to print off the intended engraving; and Mr. Long carried it to Mr. Terry, engraver in Pater-noster-row.

Mr. Terry proved that Mr. Long brought him the plate to engrave, and that it was calculated to print white letters on a black ground.

The prisoner, who was a man of great artifice, demanded if he had ever given him any orders. Mr. Terry replied in the negative, and declared that he never saw the prisoner till he was in custody.

The prisoner then said, "If Mr. Long had it executed in another place, am I answerable for a trespass in the city of London *? Mr. Terry
" had

* It should be remarked, that St. Martin's le Grand is part of the liberty of Westminster.

“ had no orders from me : I have been detained
 “ four months, and never admitted to trial ; I have
 “ obtained the high favour this day to be tried ;
 “ I am not guilty now of what is laid to my charge,
 “ though I have been detained four months.”

Deitz attempted by other artifices to prepossess the jury in his favour ; but they delivered a verdict that he was guilty, and he was sentenced to a short imprisonment.

It will now be necessary, though a little out of chronological order, to relate the particulars of Deitz's second trial.

On the sessions held at the Old Bailey in September, 1777, he was indicted for defrauding John Van Roy, by false pretences, of 116 pounds of human hair, to the value of £90.—The history of this affair is as follows. Mr. Van Roy was a Dutchman, who bought up human hair in Holland for sale in England. Deitz went to his lodgings near Holborn, with a man who called himself Prince, and they said they wanted a hundred weight of hair, to send to a merchant at Marlborough. They called a second time, bringing with them a man whom they pretended was the King's hair-dresser, and had made the first wig his majesty wore. By a variety of artifices they prevailed on Van Roy to take the hair with them in a coach to Pemberton-row, near Fleet-street ; where the goods were laid down in a room where a clerk was sitting at a desk, on which were several books and papers.

A bottle of wine was called for ; but the Dutchman, very cautious, refused to drink of it, but accepted of some porter. The agreement had been for ready money ; and Prince produced a draft for £100, on John Smith, a banker in Lombard-street.

street. Van Roy doubted if the note was good, and shewing it to Deitz, the latter said, "it is as good as the bank of England."

Van Roy had not cash enough about him to give the ballance; but said he would go home for it: but he immediately hastened to Lombard-street, to find the banker, and learn if the note was good; but no such banker could be found. He now went to a friend, and told him what had happened; and on their going together to Pemberton-row, the purchasers and the goods were vanished.

The prisoner made a very artful defence, and cross-examined the prosecutor with the dexterity of a pleader: but as he was an old offender, well known, and the evidence was clear, the jury did not hesitate to find him guilty, and he was sentenced to three years labour at ballast-heaving.

We have the rather mentioned this case, because Deitz was one of the most artful and dangerous impostors about town; of superior abilities, deep contrivance, and consummate cunning: yet all his artifices could not screen him from the justice of his country, nor prevent a fate so ignominious that a man of common sensibility would blush to think of it.

We hope it is unnecessary to caution our younger readers to beware of treading in the steps of this dangerous man; and shall therefore dismiss the subject.



The extraordinary Case, Trial, Conviction, and Execution, of DR. WILLIAM DODD, for *Forgery*.

ON the 8th of February, 1777, the reverend “ Dr. Dodd, and Mr. Robertson, a broker, “ were charged before the lord mayor, by Henry “ Fletcher, and Samuel Peach; Esquires, with “ forging and uttering as true a counterfeit bond, “ purporting to be the bond of the earl of Ches- “ terfield,” for the payment of £4200, with an intent to defraud, &c.

The history of this affair is as follows. Dr. Dodd being in want of cash to pay his tradesmen’s bills, and having been preceptor to the earl of Chesterfield, he pretended that his lordship had an urgent occasion to borrow £4000, but did not chuse to be his own agent, and begged that the matter might be secretly and expeditiously conducted. The doctor employed Mr. Robertson, a broker, to whom he presented a bond, not filled up or signed, that he might find a person who would advance the requisite sum to a young nobleman who had lately come of age. After applying to several persons who refused the business, because they were not to be present when the bond was executed, Mr. Robertson, absolutely confiding in the doctor’s honour, applied to Messrs. Fletcher and Peach, who agreed to lend the money. Mr. Robertson returned the bond to the doctor, in order to its being executed; and on the following day the doctor produced it as executed, and witnessed by himself.

When Mr. Robertson was examined before the lord mayor, he said, “ I, knowing Mr. Fletcher
“ to

“ to be a particular man, and one of those who
 “ would object to one subscribing witness only,
 “ put my name under the doctor’s. I then went
 “ and received the money, which I paid into the
 “ hands of Dr. Dodd, £3000 in notes of Sir
 “ Charles Raymond and Company, the remaining
 “ £1200 in bank-notes.”

The money being thus in the doctor’s possession, he gave Mr. Robertson a *hundred pounds* * for his trouble, and paid some of his own debts with a part of the remainder: but it does not appear but that he intended to replace the money, and pay off the bond in a short time, without the knowledge of any person but the broker, and the gentleman of whom the money had been borrowed. It happened, however, that the bond being left with Mr. Manly, (attorney for Mess. Fletcher and Peach) he observed, in the condition of the bond, “ a very remarkable blot in the first letter E, in
 “ the word SEVEN, which did not seem to be the
 “ effect of chance, but done with design. He
 “ thought it remarkable, but did not suspect a
 “ forgery; yet he shewed Mr. Fletcher the bond
 “ and blot, and advised him to have a clean bond
 “ filled up, and carried to lord Chesterfield for
 “ execution.”

Mr. Fletcher consented; and Mr. Manly went on the following day to his lordship, who, having previous notice of the intended business, asked him if he had called about the bond. Mr. Manly said he had; and his lordship answered, “ I have
 “ burnt the bond.”

This

* Was not this a handsome consideration for transacting such a business?

This appeared very extraordinary; but was soon explained, by lord Chesterfield's saying he thought the gentleman called about a bond for £500, which he had given some years before, and had taken up and burnt.

When Mr. Manly produced the bond in question, lord Chesterfield was surprized, and immediately disowned it. Upon this Mr. Manly went directly to Mr. Fletcher, to consult what steps to take. Mr. Fletcher, a Mr. Innis, and Mr. Manly, went to Guildhall, to prefer an information respecting the forgery against the broker and Dr. Dodd. Mr. Robertson was taken into custody, and with Fletcher, Innis, Manly, and two of the lord mayor's officers, went to the house of Dr. Dodd, in Argyle-street. They opened the business; Dr. Dodd was very much struck and affected. Manly told him, if he would return the money, it would be the only means of saving him. He instantly returned six notes of £500 each, making £3000. He drew on his banker for £500. The broker returned £100. The doctor gave a second draft on his banker for £200, and a judgment on his goods for the remaining £400, which judgment was carried immediately into execution.*

All this was done by the doctor in full reliance on the honour of the parties that the bond should be returned to him cancelled; but, notwithstanding this restitution, he was taken before the lord mayor, and charged as above-mentioned; when his defence was expressed in the following terms:

VOL. V. No. 46. E c

"I had

* After this full restitution, does there not appear a kind of cruelty in trying Dr. Dodd at all? But justice *must* be done.

“ I had no intention to defraud my lord Chester-
 “ field, or the gentleman who advanced the money.
 “ I hope that the satisfaction I have made, in re-
 “ turning the money, will atone for the offence.
 “ I was pressed exceedingly for £300, to pay some
 “ bills due to tradesmen. I took this step as a
 “ temporary resource: I should have repaid it in
 “ half a year. My lord Chesterfield cannot but
 “ have some tenderness for me, as my pupil: I
 “ love him, and he knows it. There is nobody
 “ wishes to prosecute. I am sure my lord Ches-
 “ terfield don’t want my life: I hope he will shew
 “ clemency to me. Mercy should triumph over
 “ justice.”

This defence was not allowed to have any
 weight; and the Doctor was committed to the
 Compter, in preparation for his trial.

On the 19th of February, 1777, Doctor Dodd
 being put to the bar at the Old Bailey, addressed
 the court in the following terms:—“ My lords, I
 “ am informed that the bill of indictment against
 “ me has been found on the evidence of Mr. Ro-
 “ bertson, who was taken out of Newgate, with-
 “ out any authority or leave from your lordships,
 “ for the purpose of procuring the bill to be
 “ found. Mr. Robertson is a subscribing witness
 “ to the bond, and, as I conceive, would be swear-
 “ ing to exculpate himself, if he should be admit-
 “ ted as a witness against me; and as the bill has
 “ been found upon his evidence, which was sur-
 “ reptitiously obtained, I submit to your lordships
 “ that I ought not to be compelled to plead on this
 “ indictment; and upon this question I beg to be
 “ heard by my counsel. My lords, I beg leave
 “ also further to observe to your lordships, that
 “ the gentlemen on the other side of the question
 “ are bound over to prosecute Mr. Robertson.”

It is now proper to remark, that, “ previous to
 “ the arguments of the counsel, an order which
 “ had been surreptitiously obtained from an officer
 “ of the court, dated Wednesday, February the
 “ 19th, and directed to the keeper of Newgate,
 “ commanding him to carry Lewis Robertson to
 “ Hicks’s-hall, in order to his giving evidence be-
 “ fore the grand inquest on the present bill of in-
 “ dictment ; likewise a resolution of the court, re-
 “ probating the said order ; and also the recog-
 “ nizance entered into by Mr. Manly, Mr. Peach,
 “ Mr. Innis, and the right hon. the earl of Ches-
 “ terfield, to prosecute and give evidence against
 “ Dr. Dodd and Lewis Robertson, for the said
 “ forgery, should be read ; and the clerk of the
 “ arraigns was directed to inform the court whe-
 “ ther the name Lewis Robertson was indorsed as
 “ a witness on the back of the indictment, which
 “ was answered in the affirmative.”

The counsel now proceeded in their arguments for and against the prisoner. Mr. Howarth, one of Dr. Dodd’s advocates, contended that not any person ought “ to plead or answer to an indict-
 “ ment, if it appears upon the face of that indict-
 “ ment that the evidence upon which the bill was
 “ found was not legal or competent to have been
 “ adduced before the grand jury.”

Mr. Cowper, of counsel on the same side, followed this idea, and hoped that Dr. Dodd might not be called on to plead to the bill of indictment, and that the bill might be quashed.

Mr. Buller, who was likewise retained for Dr. Dodd, spoke as follows ; and his arguments are so ingenious, that we think it our duty to transcribe them literally :—My lords, I am of counsel on
 “ the same side with Mr. Howarth and Mr. Cow-

“ per. It is the established law of this land, that
 “ no man shall be put upon his trial, for any
 “ offence, unless there be a bill first properly
 “ found by a grand jury: I say *properly* found;
 “ for if there be any objection whatsoever to the
 “ finding the indictment; and the most familiar
 “ that are to be found in our books are those that
 “ go to the objection of the grand jury; for in-
 “ stance, where only one person of the grand jury
 “ has been incompetent, where only eleven of the
 “ jury have found the bill, that therefore it shall
 “ not be tried. I take it the objections go uni-
 “ versally. I am aware that the objections I have
 “ been alluding to, and which are particularly
 “ stated in lord Hale, go to the grand jury only;
 “ but I will beg leave to consider whether the rea-
 “ son that governs the one does not govern the
 “ other. Another case put by my Lord Hale is
 “ this: if one of the grand jury is out-lawed,
 “ these objections go to the persons of the grand
 “ jury: I am aware that that is not the present
 “ objection; but I will beg leave, with your lord-
 “ ships’ permission, to consider whether this does
 “ not fall within the same reason; for I cannot
 “ conceive that the law, which is so peculiarly
 “ watchful over the personal qualifications of the
 “ grand jury, should not be equally attentive to
 “ the evidence which is laid before them, and
 “ upon which they are to decide the fate of the
 “ bill which is offered to their consideration. I
 “ take it to be as essential to the finding of the bill,
 “ that the evidence offered to the grand jury
 “ should be such as the law allows, as it is when
 “ the indictment afterwards comes to be tried be-
 “ fore your lordships; and if that rule holds, I
 “ trust I shall have very little difficulty in con-
 “ vincing

“vincing your lordships that this bill has been
“improperly found. My lords, the prosecutor
“has thought it so material to admit Mr. Robert-
“son a witness in this cause, that though, in my
“humble apprehension, he stands in a much more
“criminal light than the prisoner at the bar, yet
“they have thought fit to bargain with him, to let
“him off from a capital felony of the most dan-
“gerous sort to society, the most peculiarly so
“from his situation in life of any man that can be
“charged with such an offence. Mr. Robertson
“stands in this business as a sworn broker of the
“city of London: as such it was his peculiar duty
“to preserve good faith between man and man:—
“he is bargained with by the prosecutor to be let
“off in a case where he stands upon the appear-
“ance against him, now as the most criminal, for
“the purpose of procuring evidence against the
“prisoner at the bar. My lords, if that evidence
“be improper, there remains but one thing more
“to be enquired into; that is, whether your
“lordships can say that that evidence has not had
“an improper effect, when it was admitted before
“the grand jury: it is not improbable that the
“bill might be found wholly upon his evidence:—
“if I have a right to assume that as a fact, because
“the prosecutor has thought it material and abso-
“lutely necessary to produce him before the
“grand jury, why then your lordships sitting here
“cannot say but this indictment may have been
“found upon his evidence only: if it be so, is
“Robertson a person whose evidence ought to
“have been received? If I am right in saying
“that the same evidence, and the same evidence
“only, is legal before a grand jury, which is legal
“upon a trial, I apprehend the case which was
“mentioned

“ mentioned yesterday in Lord Hale, folio 303, is
 “ decisive upon this point. My lords, there are
 “ more passages in that folio book ; the first was
 “ the case mentioned yesterday of ‘ Henry Trew,
 “ was indicted for a burglary, and (by the advice
 “ of Keeling, chief justice ; Brown, justice ; and
 “ Wilde, recorder) Perrin was sworn a witness
 “ against Trew as to the burglary, which he con-
 “ fessed, but was not indicted for the other felony.’
 “ Here he was admitted, because he confessed
 “ himself guilty. The passage before that in Lord
 “ Hale seems to me still stronger :—‘ If two de-
 “ fendants be charged with a crime, one shall not
 “ be examined against the other to convict him
 “ of an offence, unless the party examined confess
 “ himself guilty.’—Now, has Robertson confessed
 “ himself guilty ? No, he has not ; then there is
 “ an express authority, by Lord Hale, that not
 “ having done it he is no witness ; he does not
 “ stand in that predicament which Lord Hale states
 “ the man to be there. He says that they were
 “ both charged with the crime ; that is the case
 “ here ; the prisoner and Robertson were both
 “ committed for the same crime ; he stands now
 “ charged with that crime, and he has not pleaded
 “ guilty : therefore upon this authority I take it
 “ to be clear, that he cannot be admitted a witness
 “ upon the trial ; and if not, I must leave it to the
 “ ingenuity of the learned counsel to shew why a
 “ man, who the law says shall not be a witness
 “ upon the trial, shall be admitted a witness to
 “ find the bill upon, against a man whom there is
 “ no other evidence to affect.”

Mr. Mansfield, and the other counsel employed
 for the prosecution, replied to these arguments in
 a manner that did honour to their ingenuity and

professional knowledge. It would greatly exceed our limits, to give their arguments at length; and it will therefore be sufficient to say, that it was agreed on all hands that the trial should be proceeded on; the question respecting the competency of Robertson's evidence being reserved for the opinion of the twelve judges.

Hereupon Dr. Dodd was indicted for forging a bond, for the payment of £4200, with intent to defraud, &c. as mentioned at the head of this article.

As we have already recited the leading particulars of this business, it will be unnecessary to be more minute; but only to say, that when the evidence was gone through, the court told the doctor that was the time for him to make his defence; on which he spoke as follows:

“ My lords, and gentlemen of the jury—Upon
 “ the evidence which has been this day produced
 “ against me, I find it very difficult to address your
 “ lordships: there is no man in the world who has
 “ a deeper sense of the heinous nature of the
 “ crime for which I stand indicted than myself.
 “ I view it, my lords, in all its extent of malignancy towards a commercial state, like ours;
 “ but, my lords, I humbly apprehend, though no
 “ lawyer, that the moral turpitude and malignancy
 “ of the crime always, both in the eye of the law,
 “ of reason, and of religion*, consists in the intention. I am informed, my lords, that the act
 “ of parliament on this head runs perpetually in
 “ this

* This is a strange phrase; it is what an Irishman would call “*both all three*,” but it is thus printed; and if Dr. Dodd made use of it, his situation must be allowed for.

“ this stile, *with an intention to defraud*. Such an
 “ intention, my lords and gentlemen of the jury,
 “ I believe, has not been attempted to be proved
 “ upon me. and the consequences that have hap-
 “ pened, which have appeared before you, suffi-
 “ ciently prove that a perfect and ample restitu-
 “ tion has been made. I leave it, my lords, to
 “ you, and the gentlemen of the jury, to consider,
 “ that if an unhappy man ever deviates from the
 “ law of right, yet, if in the single first moment
 “ of recollection, he does all that he can to make
 “ a full and perfect amends, what, my lords, and
 “ gentlemen of the jury, can God and man desire
 “ further? My lords, there are a variety of little
 “ circumstances, too tedious to trouble you with,
 “ with respect to this matter. Were I to give a
 “ loose to my feelings, I have many things to say
 “ which I am sure you would feel with respect to
 “ me: but, my lords, as it appears on all hands, as
 “ it appears, gentlemen of the jury, in every view,
 “ that no injury, intentional or real, has been
 “ done to any man upon the face of the earth, I
 “ hope that therefore you will consider the case
 “ in its true state of clemency. I must observe to
 “ your lordships, that though I have met with all
 “ candour in this court, yet I have been pursued
 “ with excessive cruelty; I have been prosecuted
 “ after the most express engagements, after the
 “ most solemn assurances, after the most delusive,
 “ soothing arguments of Mr. Manly; I have
 “ been prosecuted with a cruelty scarcely to be
 “ paralleled: a person, avowedly criminal in the
 “ same indictment with myself, has been brought
 “ forth as a capital witness against me; a fact, I
 “ believe, totally unexampled. My lords, op-
 “ pressed as I am with infamy, loaded as I am
 “ with

“ with distress, sunk under this cruel prosecution,
 “ your lordships, and the gentlemen of the jury,
 “ cannot think life a matter of any value to me :
 “ no, my lords, I solemnly protest, that death of
 “ all blessings would be the most pleasant to me
 “ after this pain. I have yet, my lords, ties which
 “ call upon me ; ties which render me desirous
 “ even to continue this miserable existence :—I
 “ have a wife, my lords, who for twenty-seven
 “ years has lived an unparalleled example of con-
 “ jugal attachment and fidelity, and whose be-
 “ haviour during this trying scene would draw
 “ tears of approbation, I am sure, even from the
 “ most inhuman. My lords, I have creditors,
 “ honest men, who will lose much by my death :
 “ I hope, for the sake of justice towards them,
 “ some mercy will be shewn to me. If, upon the
 “ whole, these considerations at all avail with you,
 “ my lords, and you gentlemen of the jury ; if,
 “ upon the most impartial survey of matters, not
 “ the slightest intention of injury can appear to
 “ any one ; and I solemnly declare it was in my
 “ power to replace it in three months ; of this I
 “ assured Mr. Robertson frequently ; and had his
 “ solemn assurances that no man should be privy to
 “ it but Mr. Fletcher and himself, and if no injury
 “ was done to any man upon earth ; I then hope,
 “ I trust, I fully confide myself in the tenderness,
 “ humanity, and protection of my country.”

The discerning reader will easily see, by the
 defence, that Dr. Dodd was not a man of superior
 abilities ; and the defence itself appears to be little
 else than a confession of guilt.

The jury retired for about ten minutes, and then
 returned with a verdict, that “ The prisoner was

“GUILTY;” but at the same time presented a petition, humbly recommending the convict to the royal mercy*.

On the first day of the sessions held at the Old Bailey in May, 1777, Dr. Dodd, being put to the bar, was addressed by Mr. Justice Aston in the following terms :

“Doctor William Dodd,

“When you was brought up in last February
“sessions, to plead to an indictment found by the
“grand jury of Middlesex for forgery, before you
“pleaded, or the trial was proceeded upon, a
“question was submitted to the court by you,
“with the advice of your counsel, which was re-
“served for the opinion of the judges; that is,
“whether you was bound to plead to, and ought
“to be tried upon that indictment, as the name of
“Lewis Robertson, committed for the same for-
“gery, appeared to be indorsed as a witness upon
“the bill of indictment, and that he had been
“taken before the grand jury to be examined as
“a witness, by means of an order directed to the
“keeper of Newgate, which had been improperly
“obtained, on the 19th of February, and which
“was afterwards vacated by the court.

“The judges have met, and have fully confi-
“dered the whole matter of this objection; and they
“are unanimously of opinion, that the necessity
“of some proper authority to carry a witness who
“hap-

* It seems highly probable that this petition was previously prepared by the friends of Dr. Dodd; for an absence of ten minutes was insufficient to agree on a verdict, and prepare the petition.

“ happened to be in custody before the grand jury
“ to give evidence, regards the justification of the
“ gaoler only; but that no objection lies upon that
“ account in the mouth of the party indicted, for
“ in respect of him the finding of the bill is right,
“ and according to law.

“ Whether a private prosecutor, by using an
“ accomplice in or out of custody as a witness,
“ gives such a witness a plea not to be prosecuted,
“ or can entitle himself, the prosecutor, to have
“ his recognizance discharged, is a matter very fit
“ for consideration under all the circumstances
“ of the particular case, when that question shall
“ arise;—but it is a matter in which the party in-
“ dicted has no concern, nor can he make any
“ legal objection to the producing such a person
“ as a witness, for the accomplice is, against him,
“ a legal and competent witness, and so was Lewis
“ Robertson upon the bill of indictment preferred
“ against you.

“ The judges, therefore, are of opinion, that the
“ proceedings upon that indictment against you
“ were legally had, and that you was thereupon
“ duly convicted according to law. Of this opinion
“ I thought it most proper thus early to apprise
“ you, that you may be prepared for the conse-
“ quence of it at the close of the sessions.”

To this address Dr. Dodd replied in the fol-
lowing terms: “ My lord, I humbly thank your
“ lordship, and the rest of the learned judges, for
“ the consideration you have been pleased to give
“ to the objections made by my counsel on that
“ awful day of my trial; and I rest fully satisfied,
“ my lord, in the justice of your lordship’s
“ opinion.”

On the last day of the sessions Dr. Dodd was again put to the bar, when the clerk of the arraigns said, “ Dr. William Dodd, you stand convicted of forgery; what have you to say why this court should not give you judgment to die according to law?”

Hereupon Dr. Dodd addressed the court in the following terms: “ My lord, I now stand before you a dreadful example of human infirmity. I entered upon public life with the expectations common to young men whose education has been liberal, and whose abilities have been flattered; and when I became a clergyman, I considered myself as not impairing the dignity of the order. I was not an idle, nor, I hope, an useless minister: I taught the truths of christianity with the zeal of conviction, and the authority of innocence. My labours were approved; my pulpit became popular; and, I have reason to believe, that of those who heard me some have been preserved from sin, and some have been reclaimed. Condescend, my lord, to think, if these considerations aggravate my crime, how much they must embitter my punishment!

“ Being distinguished and elevated by the confidence of mankind, I had too much confidence in myself, and thinking my integrity, what others thought it, established in sincerity, and fortified by religion, I did not consider the danger of vanity, nor suspect the deceitfulness of my own heart. The day of conflict came, in which temptation seized and overwhelmed me! I committed the crime, which I entreat your lordship to believe that my conscience hourly represents to me in its full bulk of mischief and

“ malignity.

“ malignity. Many have been overpowered by
“ temptation, who are now among the penitent
“ in heaven!

“ To an act now waiting the decision of vindic-
“ tive justice, I will not presume to oppose the
“ counterbalance of almost thirty years, (a great
“ part of the life of man) passed in exciting and
“ exercising charity; in relieving such distresses
“ as I now feel; in administering those consolations
“ which I now want. I will not otherwise
“ extenuate my offence, than by declaring, what I
“ hope will appear to many, and what many circumstances make probable, that I did not intend
“ finally to defraud: nor will it become me to
“ apportion my own punishment, by alledging that
“ my sufferings have been not much less than
“ my guilt. I have fallen from reputation which
“ ought to have made me cautious, and from a
“ fortune which ought to have given me content.
“ I am sunk at once into poverty and scorn: my
“ name and my crime fill the ballads in the
“ streets; the sport of the thoughtless, and the
“ triumph of the wicked!

“ It may seem strange, my lord, that, remembering what I have lately been, I should still
“ wish to continue what I am:—but contempt of
“ death, how speciously soever it may mingle with
“ heathen virtues, has nothing in it suitable to
“ christian penitence.

“ Many motives impel me to beg earnestly for
“ life. I feel the natural horror of a violent
“ death, the universal dread of untimely dissolution.
“ I am desirous to recompence the injury
“ I have done to the clergy, to the world, and to
“ religion; and to efface the scandal of my crime,
“ by

“ by the example of my repentance :—but, above
 “ all, I wish to die with thoughts more composed,
 “ and calmer preparation.

“ The gloom and confusion of a prison, the
 “ anxiety of a trial, the horrors of suspense, and
 “ the inevitable vicissitudes of passion, leave not
 “ the mind in a due disposition for the holy exer-
 “ cises of prayer, and self-examination. Let not
 “ a little life be denied me, in which I may, by
 “ meditation and contrition, prepare myself to
 “ stand at the tribunal of Omnipotence, and sup-
 “ port the presence of that judge, who shall dis-
 “ tribute to all according to their works; who will
 “ receive and pardon the repenting sinner, and
 “ from whom the merciful shall obtain mercy.

“ For these reasons, my lords, amidst shame and
 “ misery, I yet wish to live; and most humbly im-
 “ plore, that I may be recommended by your
 “ lordship to the clemency of his Majesty.”

The RECORDER now proceeded to pass sentence
 in the following terms:—“ Dr. William Dodd,
 “ you have been convicted of the offence of pub-
 “ lishing a forged and counterfeit bond, knowing
 “ it to be forged and counterfeited; and you have
 “ had the advantage which the laws of this country
 “ afford to every man in that situation, a fair, an
 “ impartial, and an attentive trial.

“ The jury, to whose justice you appealed, have
 “ found you guilty; their verdict has undergone
 “ the consideration of the learned judges, and
 “ they found no ground to impeach the justice of
 “ that verdict; you yourself have admitted the
 “ justice of it; and now the very painful duty that
 “ the necessity of the law imposes upon the court,
 “ to

“ to pronounce the sentence of that law against
“ you, remains only to be performed.

“ You appear to entertain a very proper sense
“ of the enormity of the offence which you have
“ committed; you appear too in a state of con-
“ trition of mind, and I doubt not have duly re-
“ flected how far the dangerous tendency of the
“ offence you have been guilty of is increased by
“ the influence of example, in being committed by
“ a person of your character, and of the sacred
“ function of which you are a member. These
“ sentiments seem to be yours: I would wish to
“ cultivate such sentiments; but I would not wish
“ to add to the anguish of a person in your situa-
“ tion by dwelling upon it.

“ Your application for mercy must be made
“ elsewhere: it would be cruel in the court to
“ flatter you; there is a power of dispensing mercy,
“ where you may apply. Your own good sense,
“ and the contrition you express, will induce you
“ to lessen the influence of the example, by publish-
“ ing your hearty and sincere detestation of the
“ offence of which you are convicted; and that
“ you will not attempt to palliate or extenuate,
“ which would indeed add to the degree of the
“ influence of a crime of this kind being com-
“ mitted by a person of your character and known
“ abilities; I would therefore warn you against
“ any thing of that kind. Now, having said this,
“ I am obliged to pronounce the sentence of the
“ law, which is—That you Dr. William Dodd be
“ carried from hence to the place from whence
“ you came; that from thence you are to be car-
“ ried to the place of execution, where you are to
“ be

“ be hanged by the neck until you are dead.”—
To this Dr. Dodd replied, “ Lord Jesus, receive
“ my soul !

We will now proceed to an account of the execution of Dr. Dodd ; then relate some farther particulars respecting him, and conclude with remarks proper to the occasion.

This unhappy clergyman was attended to the place of execution, in a mourning coach, by the Rev. Mr. Villette, ordinary of Newgate, and the Rev. Mr. Dobey. Another criminal, named Joseph Harris, was executed at the same time. It is impossible to give an idea of the immense crouds of people that thronged the streets from Newgate to Tyburn. When the prisoners arrived at the fatal tree, and were placed in the cart, Dr. Dodd exhorted his fellow-sufferer in so generous a manner as testified that he had not forgot the duty of a clergyman, and was very fervent in the exercise of his own devotions. Just before the parties were turned off, Dr. Dodd whispered to the executioner. What he said cannot be known ; but it was observed that the man had no sooner driven away the cart, than he ran immediately under the gibbet, and took hold of the doctor's legs, as if to steady the body ; and the unhappy man appeared to die without pain ; but the groans, prayers and tears of thousands attended his exit.

Dr. Dodd was executed on the 27th of June, 1777.

Thus perished all that was mortal of William Dodd, doctor of divinity, late prebendary of Brecon, and chaplain in ordinary to his Majesty. This man, with all his faults, was not without his virtues ; he was the promoter of many charities, and the



*DR DODD and JOSEPH HARRIS,
at the place of Execution.*

the institutor of some of them. The Magdalen hospital, the society for the relief of poor debtors, and that for the recovery of persons apparently drowned, will, we trust, be perpetual monuments to his credit: but it is our duty not to conceal or disguise his faults, the principal of which appear to have been vanity, and a turn for extravagance, which ruined his circumstances, and urged him to commit the crime which cost him his life.

After conviction, the exertions made to save Dr. Dodd were perhaps beyond all example in any country. The news-papers were filled with letters, and paragraphs in his favour. Individuals of all ranks and degrees exerted themselves in his behalf: parish officers went, in mourning, from house to house, to procure subscriptions to a petition to the king; and this petition, which, with the names, filled 23 sheets of parchment, was actually presented. Even more than this:—the lord mayor and common council went in a body to St. James's, to solicit mercy for the convict. But all this availed nothing: it was necessary to make an example of a man who had set but too bad an one to others; and who, from the fairest prospect of rising to the highest honours of the church, sunk to the lowest degree of abasement.

Surely this tale will be a lesson against extravagance, and will teach us to be content in the station of life in which Providence hath placed us. The fate of this unhappy man furnishes, likewise, the strongest argument against the crime of forgery; for if all the interest that was exerted to save Dr. Dodd could have no weight, no one hereafter guilty of it ought to expect a pardon. If, then, any one should be tempted to the commission

of it to him reflect on this case ; let him, moral and religious considerations apart, stay the hasty hand, and let him retract the rash resolution.

We shall conclude this narrative with an extract from an address which Dr. Dodd wrote, after conviction, to his fellow prisoners ; because we deem it well worthy the public attention.— “ There is always,” says the doctor, “ a danger lest men, fresh from a trial in which life has been lost, should remember with resentment and malignity the prosecutor, the witnesses, or the judges. It is indeed scarcely possible, with all the prejudices of an interest so weighty, and so affecting, that the convict should think otherwise than that he has been treated, in some part of the process, with unnecessary severity. In this opinion he is perhaps singular, and therefore probably mistaken : but there is no time for disquisition ; we must try to find the shortest way to peace. It is easier to forgive than to reason right. He that has been injuriously or unnecessarily harrassed, has one opportunity more of proving his sincerity, by forgiving the wrong, and praying for his enemy.

“ It is the duty of a penitent to repair, as far as he has the power, the injury he has done. What we can do is commonly nothing more than to leave the world an example of contrition. On the dreadful day, when the sentence of the law has its full force, some will be found to have affected a shameless bravery, or negligent intrepidity. Such is not the proper behaviour of a convicted criminal. To rejoice in tortures is the privilege of a martyr ; to meet death with intrepidity is the right only of innocence.

“nocence, if in any human being innocence could
“be found. Of him whose life is shortened by
“his crimes, the last duties are humility and self-
“abasement. We owe to God sincere repentance ;
“we owe to man the appearance of repentance.
“Men have died with a steadfast denial of crimes,
“of which it is very difficult to suppose them in-
“nocent. By what equivocation or reserve they
“may have reconciled their consciences to false-
“hood it is impossible to know : but if they thought
“that, when they were to die, they paid their legal
“forfeit, and that the world had no farther de-
“mand upon them ; that therefore they might,
“by keeping their own secrets, try to leave
“behind them a disputable reputation ; and that
“the falsehood was harmless because none were
“injured ; they had very little considered the
“nature of society. One of the principal parts of
“national felicity arises from a wise and impartial
“administration of Justice. Every man reposes
“upon the tribunals of his country the stability
“of possession, and the serenity of life. He there-
“fore who unjustly exposes the courts of judica-
“ture to suspicion, either of partiality or error,
“not only does an injury to those who dispense
“the laws, but diminishes the public confidence
“in the laws themselves, and shakes the founda-
“tion of public tranquillity.

“For my own part. I confess, with deepest com-
“punction, the crime which has brought me to
“this place ; and admit the justice of my sentence,
“while I am sinking under its severity.”



An authentic Account of JAMES HILL, otherwise JOHN HIND, otherwise JAMES HIND, otherwise JAMES ACKMAN, commonly called JOHN the PAINTER, who was executed for setting fire to the Rope-house belonging to his Majesty's Dock Yard at Portsmouth.

ABOUT four o'clock in the afternoon of the 7th of December, 1776, a fire broke out in the Rope-house of Portsmouth-dock, which entirely consumed that building. The fire was wholly attributed to accident; but on the 15th of January the following discovery was made, which incontestably proved that the building had been destroyed by design.

Three men being employed in the hemp-house, they found a tin machine, somewhat resembling a tea cannister, and near the same spot a wooden box containing various kinds of combustibles. This circumstance being communicated to the commissioner of the dock, and circulated among the public, several vague and indefinite suspicions fell upon a man who had been lurking about the dock-yard, whose surname was not known, but who had been distinguished by the appellation of John the Painter, and had been a journeyman to Mr. Golding, a painter at Titchfield.

In consequence of advertisements in the Newspapers, offering a reward of £.50 for apprehending John the Painter, he was secured at Odiham. On the 7th of February the prisoner was examined at Sir John Fielding's office in Bow-street, where John Baldwin, who had exercised the trade of a painter

painter in different parts of America, attended by the direction of Lord Temple, who imagined that the parties might know each other. Baldwin declared he had not the least knowledge of the prisoner, who then bowed to him, and soon after requested that he would favour him with a visit in New-prison. Baldwin attended him in the afternoon, and on the following days till the 15th, and their conversations were on general subjects relating to the affairs in America; but on the 15th, and the subsequent days till the 24th, the prisoner's discourse with Baldwin operated very materially towards his conviction, as it was brought in corroboration of a variety of evidence on trial. He asked Baldwin whether he was acquainted with Mr. Dean, and, being answered in the negative, exclaimed, "What not Mr. Dean, Silas Dean, employed by the congress? He is a fine fellow. I believe Benjamin Franklin is employed on the same errand." He said he had taken a view of most of the dock yards and fortifications about England, the number of ships in the navy, and observed their weight of metal and their number of men, and had been to France two or three times to inform Silas Dean of his discoveries; and that Dean gave him bills to the amount of £.300, and letters of recommendation to a merchant in the city, which he had burnt, lest they should lead to a discovery. He informed Baldwin that he instructed a tin-man's apprentice at Canterbury to make him a tin cannister, which he carried to Portsmouth, where he hired a lodging at one Mrs. Boxall's, and tried his preparations for setting fire to the dock yard.

After recounting the manner of preparing matches and combustibles, he said that on the 6th

of the preceding December he got into the hemp-house, and having placed a candle in a wooden box and a tin cannister over it, and sprinkled turpentine over some of the hemp, he proceeded to the rope-house, where he placed a bottle of turpentine among a quantity of loose hemp, which he sprinkled with turpentine, and having laid matches, made of paper painted over with powdered charcoal and gunpowder diluted with water, and other combustibles about the place, he returned to his lodgings. The next day he hired lodgings in two other houses to which he intended to set fire, that the engines might not be all employed together in quenching the conflagration at the dock. On this day he again went to the hemp-house, intending to set it on fire, which he however was unable to effect, owing to a half-penny worth of common house matches * that he had bought not being sufficiently dry. This disappointment, he said, rendered him exceedingly uneasy, and that he went from the hemp-house to the rope-house, and set fire to the matches he had placed there. He said his uneasiness was increased because he could not return to the lodging where he had left a bundle containing an Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, a treatise on war and making fire works, a Justin, a pistol, and a French passport, in which his real name was inserted.

When he had set fire to the rope-house he proceeded towards London, deeply regretting his failure

* The matches he had formed for firing the combustibles were so contrived as to continue burning for twenty four hours; so that by cutting them into proper lengths he provided for his escape, knowing the precise time when the fire would reach the combustibles.

failure in attempting to fire the other building, and was strongly inclined to fire into the windows of the woman who had sold him the bad matches. He jumped into a cart, and gave the woman who drove it sixpence, to induce her to drive quick; and, when he had passed the centinels, observed the fire to have made so rapid a progress, that the “element seemed in a blaze.” About ten the next morning he arrived at Kingston, where he remained till the dusk of the evening, and proceeded to London in the stage.

Soon after his arrival, he waited upon the gentleman in the city, and informed him of having been under the necessity of burning the bills upon, and letters to, him from Silas Dean. The gentleman behaved to him with shyness, but appointed to meet him at a coffee-house. At the coffee-house the gentleman seemed to be doubtful as to the story told by Hill, who therefore went away displeased, and as soon as he reached Hammersmith wrote to the merchant, saying he was going to Bristol, and that the “handy works” he meant to perform there would be soon known to the public.

Soon after his arrival at Bristol, he set fire to several houses, which all were burning with great rapidity at one time, and the flames were not extinguished till damage was sustained to the amount of fifteen thousand pounds. He also set fire to combustibles that he had placed among a number of oil barrels upon the quay, but happily without effect. He related to Baldwin a great number of other circumstances, which were confirmed by a variety of evidence on the trial.

James Russel produced a tin case and a wooden box made to fit each other, containing combustibles,

bles, which he swore he found in the hemp-house at Portsmouth.

William Tench, apprentice to a tinman at Canterbury, deposed, that about a month or six weeks before Christmas he made the tin case produced by Ruffel, by the order and under the immediate inspection of the prisoner.

Elizabeth Boxall swore that the prisoner lodged at her house on the night preceding that on which the fire happened, and that in the morning she perceived a violent smell of sulphur, and going into the prisoner's room complained that she was fearful he would set fire to her house; that he left a bundle, which she opened and found to contain a tin case; and being shewn the cannister produced by Ruffel, she believed it to be the same.

Mrs. Cole swore that the prisoner took a lodging at her house, and left there a bundle * containing some books and other things, which she delivered to Mr. Jeffrey, clerk to the commissioner of the dock.

John Fisher, servant to Mr. Tuck, tinman at Canterbury, deposed, that about six or seven weeks before Christmas the prisoner came to his master's shop, and gave orders for two tin cases, but that, not being finished at the time he had appointed to call for them, they were left on his master's hands. Fisher produced one of the cases, which was found to correspond with that found in the hemp-house.

William Baldy and William Weston swore, that they saw and conversed with the prisoner in the hemp-house at Portsmouth on the 7th of December.

Anne

* This bundle contained the books, the French passport, &c. which the prisoner mentioned to Baldwin.

Anne Hopkins deposed that about four, or half past four, of the day on which the fire happened at Portsmouth-dock, the prisoner overtook her near the Flying Bull at Cosham, and saying he was going to Petersfield, and feared he should be benighted, desired she would allow him to ride part of the way in her cart, and gave her sixpence in order that she might drive quick; and that, when she came within sight of her house, he leaped out of the cart, and took the road leading to London.

Anne Gentle swore, that on the day before the fire at Portsmouth the prisoner bought a half-penny worth of matches at her shop on Portsmouth Common: and John Hillingdon swore that, as far as he could judge from human probability, the prisoner was the man to whom he sold two ounces of spirits of turpentine, and a quarter of a pound of salt-petre, either three or four days before or after the 20th of November.

Mary Bishop deposed, that some time between Michaelmas and Christmas the prisoner came to her house in Canterbury, and asked whether she could procure a wooden thing to be made for him. Being shewn the wooden box found with the tin case in the hemp-house, she said she saw a thing like it brought to the prisoner by Mr. Ormisham's apprentice, who was since dead.

John Dobby, who apprehended the prisoner, declared that he found in his custody the following articles: a snuff-box containing tinder, a small powder-horn with gunpowder, a striking tinder-box primed, a phial half full of spirits of turpentine, a parcel of matches, and some other things not of a suspicious nature.

Thomas Mason, a painter near Bristol, swore that the day after Christmas day the prisoner came

to his house, and asked leave to grind a small quantity of charcoal; that he directed him to his colour-stone, on which he worked about two hours in grinding a piece of charcoal about the size of two of his fingers.

The bundle left by the prisoner at Mrs. Cole's was then produced; and the clerk informed the court that it contained a loaded pistol, a French passport, and some books, the titles of which he read.

The court then informed the prisoner, that the evidence against him was closed, and called upon him for his defence. He called no witnesses, but addressed the court two or three times, and proposed some questions to Baldwin, but he said nothing tending to invalidate the charge against him.

The judge then summed up the evidence in the most clear, circumstantial, and candid manner that can be imagined; and the jury pronounced him guilty: in consequence of which the judge addressed him in a manner truly pathetic, reminding him of the shocking enormity of his crime, which was of such a nature as would not admit the possibility of his sentence being reversed, and exhorting him to exert his utmost endeavours that the eternity he was to enter upon in a few days might prove "an eternity of bliss instead of misery." The prisoner said he entertained "no hopes of pardon," but was willing to die, more so than to live."

This malefactor was tried at Winchester-castle on Thursday the 6th of March, 1777, before the right honourable Sir William Henry Ashurst, Knt. and Sir Beaumont Hotham, Knt.

James Hill was executed at Portsmouth on the 10th of March, 1777.

During

During a residence of some years in America, Hill imbibed principles incompatible with the interests of this country. His case affords a striking instance of the extravagant lengths to which people may be transported by party zeal. Not influenced by private malignancy, or avaricious motives, he formed the desperate resolution of committing a crime of such horrid enormity as not to admit the possibility of any kind of aggravation; and this resolution he, in some degree, effected. Had his diabolical purpose been attended with the full success he expected, long ere this Great Britain would, in all probability, have lost her national importance, and been reduced to a state of the most abject slavery to foreign and despotic powers.

Though Hill aimed at involving every individual of these kingdoms in immediate and general destruction, christian charity should induce us to hope that he followed the advice of the learned judge, in endeavouring to make the eternity that awaited him “an eternity of bliss instead of misery.”



Particulars of the Examination, Commitment, and Trial, of DAVID BROWN DIGNAN, who was convicted of a *Fraud*, and sentenced to labour on the Thames.

ON Wednesday the 13th of March, 1777, this offender was brought to the office in Bow-street, when Mr. John Clark deposed, that between the 18th of June and the 8th of July preceding he paid the prisoner £100 : 2 : 10 as a gratuity for

H h 2

invest-

investing him with the office of clerk of the minutes in his majesty's custom-house in Dublin; that the above-mentioned sum was paid at different times in cash and drafts, and that the drafts were duly honoured by the parties on whom they were drawn. Mr. Clark produced a stamped paper bearing the signature of lord Weymouth, and counter-signed Thomas Daw, which he deposed to have received from the prisoner as a legal warrant appointing him to the office in question. Mr. Daw proved that the signature of lord Weymouth and his own name were counterfeited; and it evidently appeared that the seals had been taken from some instrument, and affixed to the pretended warrant.

Dignan was charged with a similar offence by Mr. Brown, from whom he obtained £1000, under pretence of causing him to be appointed writer of the London Gazette. Mr. Brown produced a warrant bearing the similar marks of imposition with those exhibited in the former charge:—this gentleman likewise produced a letter, given to him by the prisoner, ordering Mr. Hamilton, the printer of the Gazette, to act under the direction of Mr. Brown; and likewise an oath of qualification taken by him in presence of the prisoner.

After a very deliberate consideration of these circumstances, the magistrates were of opinion that Dignan's offence was not within the description of the laws respecting forgery: he was therefore committed to Tothill-fields bridewell, to take his trial for the frauds.

The prisoner, by way of defence, said that, on suspicion of his having been guilty of high treason, his papers had been seized, and were in the possession of Sir Alexander Leith; adding that some writings among them would fully exculpate him

him from the charges adduced against him. Sir Alexander ordered his trunk to be brought into the office, and all such papers as were not considered as matter of evidence were returned to him.

On the 5th of April, 1777, David Brown Dignan was indicted at Guildhall, Westminster, for defrauding Mr. Clarke of £700*, under pretence of appointing him clerk of the minutes in the custom-house at Dublin, by means of a forged warrant pretended to be signed by lord Weymouth and Mr. Daw. The evidence against him was in substance what we have already related; and the jury found him guilty, without leaving the court.

The magistrates hesitated a long time on what punishment should be inflicted on so atrocious an offender, and at length sentenced him to work five years on the river Thames.

Dignan had carried on a still more atrocious traffic than that for which he was convicted. Not long before he was detected, he called at the house of lord Suffolk, requesting an interview on business of an important nature. His lordship admitted him to a private audience; when Mr. Dignan disclosed his purpose to the following effect: he said that he had unhappily engaged in a conspiracy with some gentlemen of rank and fortune to shoot the King; and he had the audacity to mention the names of several gentlemen of rank and fortune, particularly the duke of Richmond, the earl of Shelburne, and the aldermen Sawbridge and Lee, &c. as being among the number of the conspirators.

He

* Mr. Clarke's charge was for £100:2:10; but indictments are seldom laid to the full amount of the injury sustained.

He even went farther than this: he talked of the time and place where the supposed treasonable consultations were held. He pretended that the stings of conscience had occasioned a remorse in his mind; and that he had made so ample a confession, as the only atonement in his power for having engaged in so villainous a conspiracy.

Lord Suffolk, with great prudence, urged him to make oath of the particulars; but this Dignan declined, saying "that, as the scheme was not yet ripe for execution, no inconvenience could therefore ensue from the delay. The conspirators (he said) were to meet that evening; and the next morning he would wait on his lordship, to give him information of every particular which passed at the meeting."

Dignan returned to lord Suffolk at the appointed time, when he was urged to make a full disclosure of the affair. He then desired a procrastination of one day only; and said that on the next he would swear to every particular he had related.

Justly suspicious that Dignan had no good intention, his lordship had employed persons to watch his motions; but he was traced only to the stews of debauchery: and the gentlemen charged with the conspiracy were likewise surrounded, unknown to themselves, by a group of observers.

From the characters of the gentlemen accused, and that of the accuser, and from all the circumstances that had passed, lord Suffolk was convinced that the former were totally innocent, and that the latter was a villain. When, therefore, Dignan waited on his lordship for the last time, the secretary was present. The scoundrel was
charged

charged with his baseness in explicit terms. He appeared to be confounded; his voice faltered, he turned pale, and was evidently self-convicted.

On Wednesday the 23^d of April, 1777, Mr. Smith, governor of Tothill-fields bridewell, requested the advice of the magistrates at Bow-street as to the disposal of Dignan. He said he had received an order for removing the prisoner to the ballast-lighter, pursuant to the sentence passed on him by the magistrates of Middlesex and Westminster at the Guildhall; but that the solicitor in a prosecution cognizable by the magistrates usually presiding at Hicks's-hall, had given him notice to detain the prisoner in custody till an Habeas Corpus should be procured to bring him for trial before the last mentioned magistrates. The bench agreed in opinion, that as Tothill-fields bridewell was a county gaol, the Middlesex magistrates would have been justifiable in claiming the appearance of the prisoner without the authority of an Habeas Corpus; and they commissioned Mr. Smith to remove Dignan on the first opportunity.

Mr. Smith said that on the same evening or the next morning he would endeavour to get rid of such a troublesome guest, who had suggested a variety of stratagems to obtain his liberty; adding, that on the Saturday morning preceding he had offered to bribe an attendant in the prison with a bank note of ten pounds, to favour his escape in a large chest.

No time was now lost in conveying Dignan on board the ballast-lighter. Being possessed of plenty of money, and having high notions of gentility, he went to Woolwich in a post-chaise, with his Negro-servant behind, expecting that his money would procure every indulgence in his favour,

and

and that his servant would be still admitted to attend him; but in this he was egregiously mistaken—the keepers of the lighter would not permit the Negro to come on board; and Dignam was immediately put to the duty of the wheelbarrow.

On Monday the 5th of May Dignam sent a forged draft for £. 500 for acceptance to Mr. Drummond, banker, at Charing-Cross, who, discovering the imposition, carried the publishers before Sir John Fielding; but they were discharged; and it was intended to procure an Habeas Corpus to remove Dignam to London for examination...

This plan, however, was soon seen through; for on consideration it seemed evident that Dignam, by sending the forged draft from on board the lighter, preferred death to his situation*; so that no farther steps were taken in the affair, and Mr. Dignam remained a victim to the equitable laws of his country.

This man had been genteelly born and educated; and his vices, his contrivances, his unwarrantable artifices alone, reduced him to a situation which the meanest beggar would not envy.—It is unnecessary to caution our young readers from treading in his steps; because whoever should do so would infallibly meet with the most disgraceful punishment, and general detestation.

Account

* Is not this a kind of proof of the excellence of the plan for punishment by ballast-heaving?





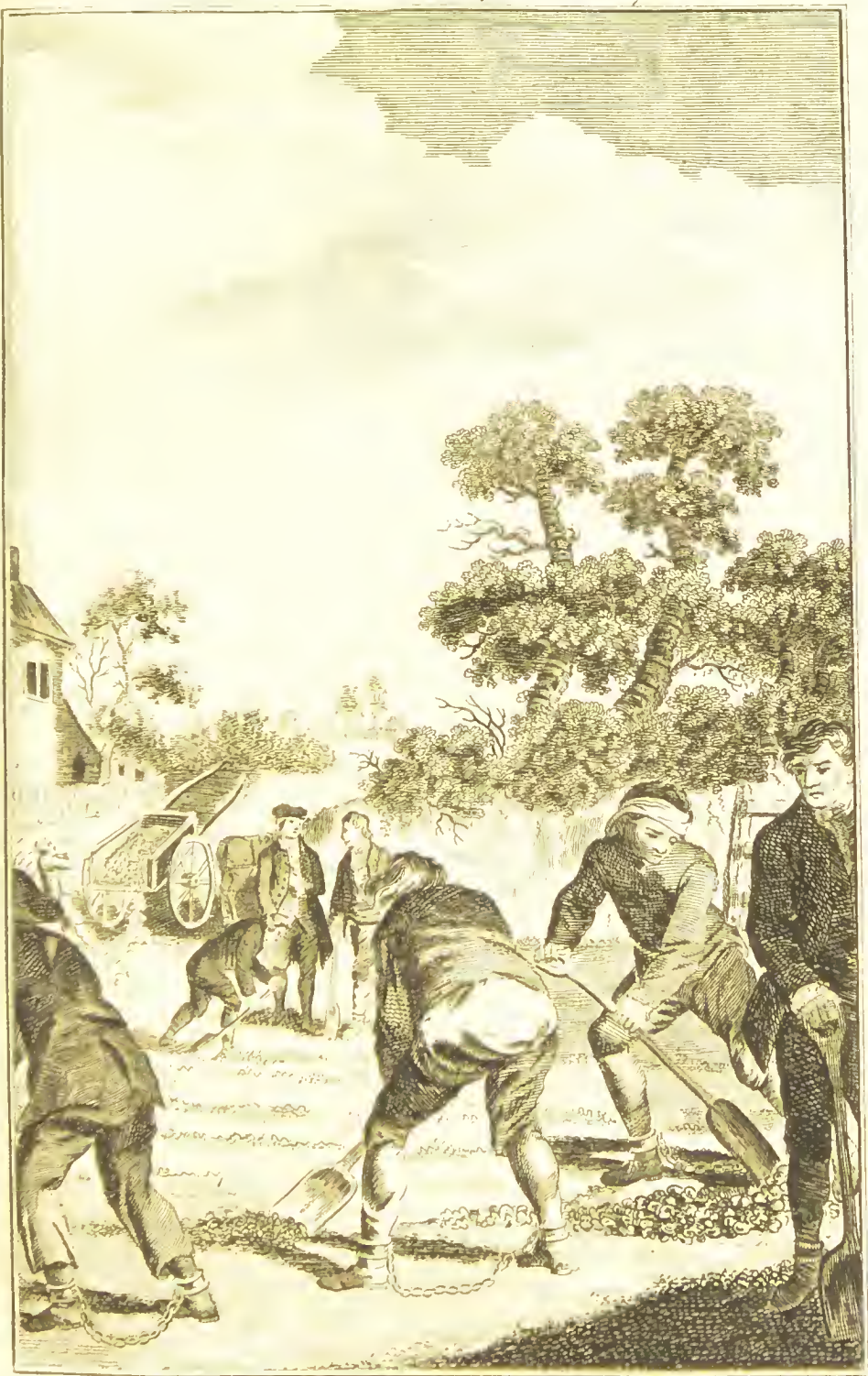
*View of the JUSTITIA Hulk, with
the Convicts at Work, near Woolwich.*



Doddington

Edmund Jones

*The CONVICTS taking Water near Black-Francis Bridge
in order for their being conveyed to Woolwich.*



*(New Plan proposed for the punishment of
HIGHWAYMEN, by Hard Labour on the ROADS.)*

An Account of the Trial of RALPH CUTLER, who was charged with having committed a Rape, and acquitted.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in September, 1777, Ralph Cutler was indicted for committing a rape on Mary the wife of Thomas Bradley, on the 16th of July preceding.

Mrs. Bradley lived in Red Lion Alley, Cowcross : her husband was what she called an auctioneer and appraiser ; but his principal business was keeping possession of effects in houses under commissions of bankrupt.

Mrs. Bradley used to frequent the Merlin's Cave, a reputable public house in Spa-fields, Clerkenwell, where, as it appears, she became acquainted with Mr. Cutler ; and it is probable that their connexion was of a very intimate kind.

Mrs. Bradley spent the evening of the 15th of July at Merlin's Cave, where after supping with some company in the garden, she went into the house, at the request of Cutler (as she says), to hear some women sing. The company went away about half past twelve ; and all of them parted at the Cold-bath in Cold-Bath-fields, except one lady, who went with Mr. Cutler and Mrs. Bradley to Brook-street, Holborn, where she likewise left them. Cutler now asked Mrs. Bradley to drink a glass of wine : she refused ; but they went to her house, out of their regular road near half a mile : he followed her into the house ; and a woman, who was attending Mrs. Bradley's children, then went away, and left the parties together.

Mrs. Bradley deposed, that, when the woman was gone, Cutler effected his purpose, by committing

ting an absolute rape on her in the kitchen ; that she threatened to acquaint her husband with what had passed, and insisted on his going out of the house immediately ; that in the interim two of her children being crying in the bed, she went up to them, but then coming down, she went up again with some drink which Cutler advised her to give to the children. Cutler followed her *, locked the door, and a second time committed the fact for which he was indicted.

She further deposed, that he insisted with an oath, that she should go to bed, and helped to undress her ; that he lay an hour and an half in the bed, and then went down stairs, and she thought he was going away ; that she went down afterwards, found him in the kitchen, and informed him that she would acquaint her husband how ill she had been treated.

On the following morning, Mr. Hamley, a relation of her husband, called on her ; but what was presumed to pass on this visit will best appear from an abstract of Hamley's evidence on the trial.

He deposed in substance, that he called on Mrs. Bradley on the 16th of July ; that she said she was not well, but desired him to stay, as she had something particular to communicate. She told him she had been at Merlin's Cave on the preceding evening, and mentioned her company ; told him that Cutler came home with her against her remonstrances to the contrary, and that he perpetrated the fact as abovementioned. That Hamley

* We must remember that this is *her* evidence. We shall see how far it was credited.

told her “ if she would defer going to her husband
 “ till the afternoon, he should be glad to meet her
 “ on Blackfriars-bridge, and take a walk into St.
 “ George’s Fields.” They met accordingly. Ham-
 ley said his motive was “ to see, if possible, whe-
 “ ther there had been any intimacy before ;” that
 he asked her whether they had ever been together
 before, but that she declared she had been inno-
 cent from first to last.

Hamley and Mrs. Bradley took a walk to
 John o’Grote’s house *, in St. George’s Fields,
 whence they returned to London ; and Hamley
 then leaving her, called at her house about nine
 o’clock the same evening, to see if Cutler was in
 her company ; but no Mr. Cutler was to be
 found.

The prisoner declaring that he left his defence
 to his counsel, Caroline Taylor, who used to sell
 fruit at Merlin’s Cave in the summer, deposed, that
 she knew the prosecutrix, and had attended her as
 a nurse to her child ; that Mrs. Bradley came to
 the Cave the evening after the rape was suppo’ed
 to have been committed, and asked her (Taylor)
 if she had seen Mr. Cutler.

This witness deposed that Mrs. Bradley was a fa-
 mous skittle-player ; that she had frequently seen
 her and Cutler play together ; and that she would
 challenge any one to play at skittles.

This witness deposed, that Mr. Hamley fre-
 quently visited Mrs. Bradley, and that he some-
 times staid till late hours : and that a Mr. Robin-
 son had slept in the house a whole night, in Mr.
 Bradley’s absence. Being asked if she thought

I i 2

Mrs,

* A public-house, famous for selling ale.

Mrs. Bradley a modest or immodest woman, she replied, "she cannot be very modest, when at all times she would go out and come home at all hours when I was there, and sometimes very much in liquor."

It was enquired if she had seen her with other men besides her husband, Her reply was, "Yes, that I have, divers of times, when her husband was not at home at all, and men have laid in the house when he was not at home." Being farther asked if she thought Mrs. Bradley an immodest woman, she answered "I don't know what you call a modest woman, if you call that one."

Sarah Cooke, who had been servant at Merlin's Cave, proved that Mrs. Bradley called at the house on the evening after the presumed rape, and enquired for Cutler, who, she said, had promised to meet her there.

Mr. John Bates gave evidence still more conclusive against the character of the prosecutrix. Being asked if he remembered, when he was in the room in the evening with Bradley and Cutler, that the former laid a wager about any thing, he replied in the following terms; "No; but I remember another circumstance which is rather more singular; this was, Cutler was asked to sing a song, which he frequently did; so he begins and sings a bit; *by G—* (says he) *I can neither sing nor do any thing else*:—she took notice of it; she goes out, and takes him with her into the passage between the two rooms, and she comes in again, and said that Mr. Cutler was fineable for what he had said."

Mr. Bates farther said, that the company desired the ladies, who were four in number, to withdraw, to bring in the verdict, and that they retired into another

another room. On their return a *foreman* was fixed on ; and Mrs. Bradley was this foreman, who delivered a verdict that Mr. Cutler was fineable a bottle of ale ; and the ale was called for, and he paid for it, “ because he was not incapable.”

This cause was tried before Mr. Justice Gould, who, after Mr. Bates had given his testimony, said, “ Gentlemen of the jury, you have heard this evidence so far ; if you desire it. I shall sum up the evidence.”—The jury replied, “ We will not trouble your lordship, we are *very well satisfied*,” and immediately acquitted the prisoner.

The writer of this well remembers that, when the charge was first made against Cutler before the magistrates in Bow-street, no person gave credit to the testimony of Mrs. Bradley ; but, as the charge was positive, the magistrates were under the necessity of committing Mr. Cutler.

The issue of the trial seems to prove, that the jury had good sense enough to distinguish between a criminal intimacy with the wife of another man, and the perpetration of so horrid a crime as a rape. Mr. Bradley had for some time a confidence in the innocence of his wife : and perhaps it would have been happier for all parties if that confidence had been well-founded.

From this tale let it be learnt, that fidelity to the marriage-bed is one of the first duties of those who are bound together by one of the most sacred of all bonds ; a bond founded equally in nature, in sound policy, in reason, and in religion.

The man and woman, who, united in wedlock, desert each other, who make separate interests, and seek to be happy independent of the original object of their choice, generally bring down misery

on their own heads, becoming wretched by the very means they seek to make themselves happy.



Account of the Trial of Mr. JOHN HARRISON, who was convicted of *Forgery*, but afterwards received His Majesty's Pardon.

MR. Harrison was accountant to the London Assurance corporation; and it was his peculiar misfortune to be acquainted with a Mr. Angus Mackey, a merchant in the city in an extensive way of trade, who, by urgent solicitations, prevailed upon the unsuspecting and good-natured man to lend him several sums belonging to the company, solemnly promising to return the money before he would have occasion to make up his accounts.

When the time appointed for the first payment arrived, instead of returning what he had already got into his possession, Mackey urged Harrison for a further supply, assuring him that he was in daily expectation of remittances, on the receipt of which he would return the whole sum that Harrison was deficient in his account with the company; adding that, if he met with a refusal, he must inevitably stop payment, which would necessarily occasion an exposure of Harrison's violation of the trust reposed in him by the company.

In this manner was the unfortunate man amused for several months, during which time he supplied Mackey with different sums, amounting in the whole to £.7550; and, to prevent detection, he inserted figures in the book containing the account between

between the bank of England and the London Assurance company, so that the bank appeared to be debtor for £.7550 more than had been paid there.

He sent a clerk with £.210 to the bank; and, when the book was returned to him, he put a figure of 3 before the 2, which made the sum appear £.3000 more than was really paid; and similar alterations were made in other parts of the book.

A committee of the company being appointed to meet on Wednesday the 9th of July, 1777, Mr. Harrison mentioned the circumstance to Mackey, and told him that he must be utterly ruined unless the deficiency in the company's cash was made good before that day: but, notwithstanding the life and reputation of his generous and imprudent friend were at stake, he neglected to return the money.

About eleven in the forenoon of the day on which the committee was to be held, Harrison placed several account-books on the table of the committee-room, and had some conversation with Alexander Aubert, Esquire, the deputy-governor. When the committee was about to be opened, Harrison absconded; and, in about ten minutes after, the following letter was received by Mr. George Hall, secretary to the company:

“ Dear Sir,

“ I am distressed beyond expression, having forfeited every thing that is dear to me, by an act of kindness to a friend who has deceived me: inclosed is a state of my account with the company, which tortures my very soul to think of it. I

“ know

“ know the treasury will not forgive me, therefore
 “ don’t care what becomes of me, as I dare not see
 “ them any more. God Almighty knows what
 “ will become of me, or where I shall fly for suc-
 “ cess: Indeed, Mr. Hall, I am one of the most mi-
 “ serable wretches living, but I have betrayed my
 “ trust, for which I never can forgive myself.
 “ When I parted with the money, it was but for a
 “ few days, or I would sooner have died than have
 “ parted with it; but, alas! I shall now severely
 “ pay by suffering myself to be drawn in to serve a
 “ friend, who knew it was not my own, and saw
 “ the distress of mind it cost me when I did it.
 “ Please to present my humble duty to the gentle-
 “ men; tell them I can meet any death after this,
 “ sooner than I can see them again, and am deter-
 “ mined not to survive the shame: I am, dear sir,
 “ a lost, unhappy being; I am so bewildered, that I
 “ scarce know what I am doing, but believe the in-
 “ closed account is not right, as I don’t recollect
 “ that I am any way short of cash; but in truth
 “ I am not myself.

“ J. H.”

When Harrison absconded, he left upwards of £.1900 in his desk, and among his papers were found securities on behalf of the company to a great amount, besides a bond given to him by Mackey for £.7550.

Notice being given at the office that Harrison was at a friend’s house at Wapping, Mr. Aubert went there in the evening, and found him in a state of mind little short of distraction. Mackey’s bond was produced by Mr. Aubert, and Harrison assigned it over to him as a security on behalf of the company. He accompanied Mr. Aubert to the

office, where two persons were ordered to attend him and prevent his putting an end to his life, which there was sufficient reason to suppose he would attempt; and the next morning he was taken before Sir John Fielding, who committed him to Tothill-fields bridewell. He was re-examined the following Wednesday, and committed to Newgate in preparation for his trial.

Harrison was tried at the Old Bailey in the September sessions, 1777, on an indictment for forgery, consisting of twenty-four counts, on twelve of which the jury pronounced him guilty. The prisoner's counsel objected to judgment being passed, on account of a supposed inaccuracy in the indictment, and the matter was left to be argued by the judges.

Having remained in Newgate some months after his trial, Mr. Harrison petitioned for the judges to meet, and that he might be heard by counsel. He was advised by an illustrious personage to wave the plea on which his petition was founded, and in consequence thereof the petition was immediately withdrawn. In a few days a messenger came to Newgate, and delivered Mr. Harrison the agreeable news that his Majesty had been graciously pleased to grant him an unconditional pardon; and the same evening an order was delivered to Mr. Akerman for his immediate enlargement.

Mr. Harrison was brought up in a merchant's counting-house, and soon after the expiration of his apprenticeship he began business on his own account, and had a lime and a coal wharf at Limehouse, where he carried on an extensive trade; but failing in that business, he engaged himself as clerk to Mr. Smithen, previous to that gentleman's undertaking to construct the Eddiston light-house,

and was entrusted with the care and management of all the money employed in that important work. His conduct under Mr. Smithen was in every respect unexceptionable; and that gentleman and many other respectable persons used their interest to procure him the office of accountant to the London Assurance company, in whose service he would in all probability have continued till his death, but for his unhappy connexion with Mackey.

Harrison had been accountant to the London Assurance company nineteen years and a half, when it was discovered that he had betrayed the confidence reposed in him; and till that period his character was without a blemish, and he was held in the highest esteem by all his acquaintance.

It is beyond dispute that Harrison entertained not the least intention to defraud, and that he meant to replace the money. He is still living, and finds the loss of a handsome income, reputation, and health, (which was greatly impaired during his confinement) a severe punishment for one act of indiscretion, in which all the misfortunes of his life have their origin.

May the case of this man prove a warning to others who are employed in offices of trust. Let them remember, that in such men as can be guilty of persuading them to violate the confidence reposed in them, no reliance can with safety be placed: but if they once give reason for an impeachment of their integrity, they will be constantly under the tormenting apprehensions of a discovery, which, if they happen to escape an ignominious death, will reduce them to poverty and disgrace.

Account of the Trial and Execution of the Reverend BENJAMIN RUSSEN, who was hanged at *Tyburn* for committing a *Rape*.

THIS man was master of the subscription charity school at Bethnal-Green, in which had been bred up a poor girl named Anne Mayne.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in October 1777, Benjamin Russen, clerk, was indicted for having committed a rape on the said Anne Mayne on the 18th of June preceding. The girl deposed, that when Mrs. Russen lay-in, the prisoner desired that she (Mayne) might stay below stairs with him, while he went to sleep after dinner, lest he should fall into the fire; and that he took this opportunity to perpetrate the fact with which he was charged, and, after it was committed, said, that if she told her mother, sister, or any body of it, he would flog her severely.

She proved a second commission of a similar fact, during which he looked out at the door, in apprehension that somebody was coming; but this did not happen to be the case. It appeared, likewise, that the crime was committed a third time; but it would be indelicate in the highest degree to recount the particulars of a fact of this nature.

A surgeon, who was present when Mr. Russen was carried before Justice Wilmot, deposed, that, on examination of the girl, he did not discover that any absolute violence had been committed.

There were three other indictments against Russen of a similar nature, but he was acquitted of them all. He now proceeded to call several persons to his character, who spoke well of him as far as they knew

In his defence he denied the fact, and pleaded the malice of his enemies, who, he said, had charged him with those offences to deprive him of his place. He urged the favourable representation of the surgeon, who had sworn that the child had not been materially injured; and insisted that the time the fact was charged to have been committed he was so ill as to keep his chamber.

By endeavouring to prove this he proved too much; for the witness swore that he kept his chamber two months successively, contrary to the tenor of all the other witnesses; so that the jury were induced to think that he had not kept his chamber even one month.

The counsel for the prisoner laboured hard to adduce some proofs of his innocence; but the jury brought in a verdict that the prisoner was guilty: in consequence of which he received sentence of death.

After conviction, the behaviour of Mr. Ruffen was exceedingly proper for a man in his unhappy situation. No very extraordinary exertions were made to obtain a pardon for him, because it was presumed it would not have been granted.

On the morning of execution Mr. Ruffen was taken from Newgate to Tyburn in a mourning-coach. Just before he left the prison, seeing a number of people about him, he made use of this emphatical expression, "Stand clear, look to yourselves; I am the first hypocrite in Sion." The parting scene between himself and his son was extremely affecting.

He was attended in the coach by the Ordinary of Newgate, the Rev. Mr. Hughes, a sheriff's officer, and an undertaker who had engaged to take care of the funeral.

At the place of execution Russen seemed to have a proper sense of his past wicked life; but in regard to the crime for which he suffered, he thought himself ill-treated, as he always asserted that he had never been guilty of a rape, though he acknowledged, a day or two before his death, that he had taken liberties with the child which were highly unbecoming. Previous to the prayers commonly made at the place of execution, he made a long extempore prayer; and earnestly exhorted the surrounding multitude to take warning by his fate. He likewise censured the indecency of the people who stood near the gallows with their hats on, and with apparent unconcern, during the time of prayer; and observed, that the place where unhappy victims are to suffer the sentence of the law should be held as sacred as a church. He therefore requested the spectators to be uncovered, and to join in their supplications for him to Almighty God; which accordingly several of them complied with: and after having prayed for his wife and helpless children, he once more recommended his soul to the mercy of God, and was then launched into eternity.

On the way to execution the mob insulted Russen, but the propriety of his behaviour at the fatal tree had an evident effect on the spectators; and when his body was cut down, it was put into a hearse, and delivered to his friends for interment.

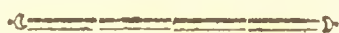
Benjamin Russen was executed at Tyburn on the 12th of December, 1777.

It is with pain that the pen of delicacy touches a subject of this nature; and this pain is increased, when we consider that the object of our remarks was in a line of life that ought to have induced him to set the best example to others. A clergyman who is a schoolmaster is bound by a double tie to exhibit

exhibit every mark of his attention to the duties of religion and morality; and, when he fails of this duty, his example is presumed to have a worse influence than that of a man in another line of life.

Mr. Ruffen had a wife and six children; which was no slight aggravation of his crime. Soon after his execution, some benevolent gentlemen caused advertisements to be inserted in the news-papers, soliciting charity for the unhappy widow, to enable her to get into some way of business. How far this succeeded is uncertain; but some subscriptions were raised for their immediate use.

From this sad tale the necessity of keeping a constant guard over our passions is obviously enforced; and we hope those may be actuated by it, on whom the superior obligations of religion might fail to have their proper weight.



A compleat Account of the Life, Trial, Conviction, and Execution, of THOMAS SHERWOOD, who suffered at *Tyburn* for *Forgery*.

THOMAS Sherwood was the son of very worthy and respectable parents, and born at Newbury in Berkshire about the year 1735. From his infancy till he attained the age of fourteen years, he was distinguished by the gentleness of his disposition, and the complacency of his manners.

At the age above mentioned he was sent to London, and apprenticed to Mr. Sanderson, a salesman in Houndsditch. He served his time with a degree of diligence and fidelity, that should furnish an example to other servants.

After

After his time was expired he succeeded his master in the business, which he carried on with the highest degree of reputation till within a year of the time of his fatal exit. Perhaps Mr. Sherwood thought himself sure of continued success; for he embarked in a scheme of building, which involved him in distress, and led, with certain and rapid steps, to his ruin.

A commission of bankrupt being issued against Mr. Sherwood in the beginning of December, 1777, he absconded, and went to Dover, with a view of escaping to France, conscious, as it was presumed, that his papers would lead to a discovery of the forgery: but a description of his person having been given at Sir John Fielding's office, he was followed to Dover by Mr. Clarke, who met with him waiting for the sailing of a vessel, and brought him to town on the 22d of the month, and he was committed, after a private examination.

On the 27th he was re-examined before Sir John Fielding, when it seemed to appear that, by means of a forged letter of attorney, in the joint names of the reverend Messrs. Myonnet and French, he had sold out stock in the three per cent. bank consolidated annuities, to the amount of £700, and in the South Sea house £800, under the same forged power. Some other circumstances arose in the course of this examination, which will more fully appear in the following narrative of his trial.

Sherwood being committed to Newgate, was indicted at the sessions held at the Old Bailey in February, 1778, for feloniously forging and counterfeiting a deed with the names of John Myonnet, D. D. and James French, thereunto subscribed, purporting to be a letter of attorney, bearing date the 3d day of April, 1777, &c.

As we have not had an opportunity, in the course of this work, of recording an instrument of this kind, we give the following as a specimen--a specimen not to be *copied*, but *avoided*.

“ Know all men, by these presents, that we,
 “ the reverend John Myonnett, of Coney-court,
 “ Gray’s-inn, D. D. and the reverend James
 “ French, of Bow, do make, constitute, and ap-
 “ point, Thomas Sherwood, of Houndsditch, dra-
 “ per, our true and lawful attorney, for us, in our
 “ names, and on our behalf, to sell, assign, and
 “ transfer, all, or any part of seven hundred
 “ pounds; being all our joint interest, or share, in
 “ the capital, or joint stock, of three per cent. an-
 “ nuities, erected by an act of parliament of the
 “ 25th year of the reign of his Majesty King
 “ George II. entitled, an act for converting the
 “ several annuities therein mentioned into several
 “ joint stocks of annuities, transferrable at the Bank
 “ of England, to be charged on the sinking fund;
 “ and by several subsequent acts: also to receive
 “ the consideration money, and give a receipt, or
 “ receipts, for the same; and to do all lawful acts
 “ requisite for effecting the premises: hereby rati-
 “ fying and confirming all that our said attorney
 “ shall do therein, by virtue thereof. In witness
 “ whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals,
 “ the 3d day of April, in the year of our Lord one
 “ thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven.

John Myonnet, D.D. (L. S.)

James French, (L. S.)

“ Signed, sealed, and delivered, (the paper being
 “ first duly stamped). in the presence of us,

“ *Thomas Hewlett*, salesman, Houndsditch.

“ *Francis Sherwood*, salesman, Houndsditch.”

Mr.

Mr. Silvester, of counsel for the prosecution, having opened the indictment, counsellor Wallace proceeded, and enlarged on the business, stating to the jury, that the prisoner married the daughter of a Mr. Thomas Hewlett, who lived at Westham in Essex; that, in the year 1768, Mr. Hewlett having agreed on a marriage with a Mrs. Drathgate, and she being possessed of consolidated three per cent. annuities, and also three per cent. reduced annuities, it was agreed, previous to the marriage, that her interests in these stocks should be settled upon certain trusts, and conveyed to Dr. Myonnet and Mr. French, as trustees.

Mrs. Drathgate having conveyed the said stock in trust to the gentlemen above-mentioned, the marriage took place; and the trustees afterwards made out a letter of attorney, to enable Mr. Sherwood to receive the dividends, and to apply it to the use of the trusts.

Mr. Hewlett dying about three years before Sherwood's misfortunes, the latter received the dividends for the use of the widow. At length, to accommodate Mr. Sherwood, she agreed to sell out the reduced annuities; and the two trustees executed a letter of attorney, to enable him so to do. When Sherwood became a bankrupt, suspicions arose that he had likewise sold out the consolidated bank annuities; and when Mr. French enquired at the bank, he found that the said annuities had been transferred.

It appeared that the prisoner had applied to Mr. Nesbit, a broker, to sell the stock under the forged letter of attorney; and that the subscribing witnesses were Thomas Hewlett, salesman, of Houndsditch, and Francis Sherwood, salesman, of Houndsditch.

How these subscriptions were obtained to the letter of attorney will hereafter appear.

The fact is this: the subscribers were both of them related to and lived with the prisoner, who desired them to set their names as witnesses to the letter of attorney, though in truth they had neither of them seen it executed by Dr. Myonnet or Mr. French. There is not the least probability that the subscribers believed they were doing a wrong thing; they signed it as a matter of course.

The transferring of the stock was proved by Mr. Stonehouse, an accountant at the bank. Mr. Nesbit, the stock-broker, proved the selling it, and paying the money to Mr. Sherwood; and likewise proved that he saw the prisoner make the transfer; and the instrument being produced, was proved to be that under which Mr. Sherwood acted as attorney.

The counsel for the crown calling for the evidence of the reverend Mr. French, the prisoner's counsel objected to his examination, as he was an interested witness; on which Mr. Robert Lewin, secretary to the bank, began to read from the minute book of the court of directors as follows:—
 “At a court of directors at the bank, on Thursday the 15th of January, 1778, Mr. Governor acquainted the court that”—

Here the prisoner's counsel objected to the reading the minute, as it was intended to be read for the purpose of shewing that Mr. French was a disinterested witness, by proving that the court of directors had replaced the stock, so that it was indifferent to Mr. French whether the instrument was valid, or a forged one.

This objection was over-ruled by the court, on the principle, that, if the prisoner should be convicted

victed of the forgery, the bank could never have the money back again, and therefore the company were in the strongest degree proving against their own interests.

On this Mr. Lewin proceeded to read the remainder of the minute, in the following words—
 “that the committee of treasury have power to
 “make good to the said Dr. Myonnet, and the
 “reverend Mr. French, the said sum of £700
 “consolidated three *per cent.* annuities.”

There was a variety of concurrent evidence unhappily combining to prove the guilt of the prisoner, who, being asked if he would say any thing in his defence, replied “I refer it to my counsel.”

On this his advocate said, “I wish him to be informed that the counsel cannot speak for him.
 “If Mr. Sherwood will urge what he has to say
 “for himself, if that furnishes a hint for his
 “counsel, they will pursue it.”

The prisoner then spoke as follows: “The
 “power of attorney for selling £700 three *per*
 “*cent.* reduced annuities, was signed by Mr.
 “French at a butcher’s shop in Whitechapel;
 “there was nobody present but him and me at
 “the time he signed: that, upon reading it over,
 “he said *this should be witnessed at the time of*
 “*signing.* I told him I supposed that was nothing
 “but matter of form; I would get it signed: he
 “said nothing more, and departed.”

A number of witnesses were present, to prove, if it had been necessary, the general good character of the prisoner: but this was needless; it could have no weight in a case of this nature against such positive testimony, and was still the less necessary, because no tradesman, no merchant in London, ever bore a fairer character than the un-

happy Sherwood, till this fatal deviation from the rule of duty.

Mr. Justice Ashurst having summed up the evidence to the jury, they retired for a short time, and then returned with a verdict that he was "guilty of uttering and publishing the letter of attorney, knowing it to be forged."

On the last day of the sessions Mr. Sherwood was put to the bar, and received sentence of death. His behaviour, both before and after conviction, was exemplary in the highest degree:—decent, modest, pious, and resigned. The assignees under the commission of bankruptcy attended in Newgate, where he made a full and ample disclosure of his estate and effects, with a degree of candour that was spoken of at the time in terms of the highest praise.

Mr. Sherwood was indulged with a mourning coach to the place of execution; and, when he came within sight of the fatal tree, he said, "this is the method God hath taken to bring me to himself." After hanging the usual time, his body was delivered to his friends; and he was interred, two days afterwards, in the burial-ground in Bunhill-fields.

Thomas Sherwood was executed at Tyburn on the 22d of May, 1778.

This unhappy man left a wife and six children. We are told that he was a liveryman of the Drapers company; and that one of their almshouses near Tower-hill was soon afterwards bestowed on the widow, which affords her an humble subsistence.

From this melancholy tale, we should learn to admire the wisdom of those laws which have been framed for the protection of property: but, at
the

the same time, we should consider that no one has a right to invade the property of another.

There was not a man in England who bore a more unblemished character than Sherwood, till distress of money urged him to commit the crime which ended so fatally. A resolution, therefore, to abide by the laws of rigid honesty, in all contingencies, is the great lesson to be learnt from the above affecting narrative.



Account of the Trial of PETER CEPPI, otherwise SCIPIO, who was convicted of maliciously shooting at HENRIETTA KNIGHTLEY, and executed at *Tyburn*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in February, 1778. Peter Ceppi, otherwise Scipio, was indicted for maliciously, &c. shooting at Henrietta Knightley, with a pistol loaded with gunpowder and a leaden bullet, in the dwelling-house of James Draper. &c.

The prisoner, being a foreigner, was allowed a jury of half foreigners and half Englishmen; and, not perfectly understanding our language, an interpreter was sworn.

Henrietta Knightley deposed, that the prisoner came to her lodgings between ten and eleven in the morning of the 18th of January, and entering her room while she was in bed, said, *he was come to do her business*, or words to that effect. He desired her to get out of bed: she did so; he pulled two pistols from his pocket, but returned one: she went towards the door, with a view to get out. He stood with his back to the door; she asked him
to

to go out, and eat some breakfast with her: he answered, *he would have no breakfast, he would give her a good one.* She then called to Mrs. Robinson, who was in care of the house, and told her that the man had a pistol. The prisoner immediately cocked his pistol, which the prosecutrix desired him to put away, for if any one saw it he would be hanged. She then drew as close to the curtain as she could. The prisoner running towards her, fired the pistol: she was sensible of the stroke of the ball, and fell against the wainscot. The prisoner then threw himself on the bed; and she heard another pistol go off, but did not see it in his hand. On this a washerwoman came up, and breaking the lower pannel of the bed-chamber door, dragged her through the aperture; and the prisoner, following by the same way, quitted the house.

Sarah Collings deposed, that she lived in the house; that she saw Mrs. Knightley standing at the chamber-door; that her breast was naked; that the blood was running down; and that she helped her to a chair.

Elizabeth Robinson proved, that she had the care of Mr. Draper's house; that the prisoner came thither, and, running to Mrs. Knightley's bed-chamber, fastened the door; that, finding the door fast, she tried to open it, but not being able, called to the prisoner to do so; but that he answered *he would not, for she was his wife.*

After reciting other particulars, she deposed, that she saw Mrs. Knightley on the landing-place, who exclaimed, "See how the villain has murdered me!"—Mrs. Robinson deposed, that, on Mrs. Knightley's opening her handkerchief, she saw the blood running down.

Mr.

Mr. Williams, a surgeon, deposed, that he found the lady sitting in a chair with a wound in her breast; that it looked like a gun-shot wound; that the ball passed through the cavity of the thorax, and lodged about eight inches distant in the side; that he presumed it missed the lungs, and he found it lodged in the integuments; and that making an incision, and extracting the ball, he found some linen or wadding after enlarging the wound.

The prisoner, in his defence, said, that he had lived ten months with the prosecutrix in the house of Mrs. Cross, and that she had promised him marriage: but that she moved from her lodgings, and cohabited with a Jew; that in her last lodgings she promised him marriage the day before the unfortunate affair took place:—that she had frequently supplied him with money; and that he went to her lodgings with a view to kill himself, rather than her; and he even appealed to her for the truth of this circumstance.

The prosecutrix being interrogated as to this particular, she said, “she did not know what he meant to do, but that he shot her with a pistol.” Being asked if she believed he came with intent to kill himself, she said “she did not know whether he might, or might not, with the other pistol.”

Louisa Cross proved, that the prisoner and the prosecutrix lodged together in her house; that they cohabited till within a month of the unfortunate transaction; and that Mrs. Knightley had spoken to the prisoner, in her house, only two days before the affair happened. She added, that she understood they were married, and knew not to the contrary till the prosecutrix informed her so, after they had left her house.

On consideration of the whole matter, the jury gave a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner received sentence of death.

Peter Ceppi was executed at Tyburn on the 22d of May, 1778.

The crime of this man, though very enormous, appears in a light of mitigation, when we consider him as actuated by the madness of ungovernable passion. He certainly loved the prosecutrix to distraction, and found his life a burden without the possession of her.

From this tale then, beyond almost any one in our book, we are taught the necessity of keeping a strict governance over our passions, as we would wish to pass through life agreeable to the laws of religion and virtue.

To temperate wishes, just desires,
Is happiness confin'd,
And, deaf to folly's call, attends
The music of the mind.



Account of that remarkable Offender **GEORGE BARRINGTON**, who was convicted of stealing a Metal Watch from the Person of **ELIZABETH IRONMONGER**, on the 15th of *March*, 1778.

BARRINGTON was convicted of stealing a watch from a lady in the pit of one of the theatres, and sentenced to labour three years on the Thames. When about a year of the time had expired, he procured a petition to be presented to the court, praying that the remaining part of his sentence

sentence might be remitted: and the officers of the *Justitia* hulk made so favourable a report of his behaviour, that, some time after, an order was sent to Mr. Campbell for his releasement.

A few days after Barrington's releasement, he went to St. Sepulchre's church, when Dr. Mylne was to preach a sermon for the benefit of the society for the recovery of persons apparently drowned. William Payne, a constable, saw him put his hand into a lady's pocket in the south aisle, and presently after followed him out of the church, and took him into custody near the end of Cock-lane, upon Snow-hill. Having taken the prisoner to St. Sepulchre's watch-house, and found a gold watch, and some other articles, in his possession; Payne returned to the church, and spoke to the lady whom he had seen the prisoner attempt to rob; and she informed him that she had lost nothing, for, expecting the church to be much crowded, she had taken the precaution of emptying her pockets before leaving her house.

Upon Payne's return to the watch-house, a gentleman advised that the prisoner might be more strictly searched. He was desired to take off his hat, and, raising his left arm, he cautiously removed his hat from his head, when a metal watch dropped upon the floor. He was now obliged to pull off the greatest part of his cloaths. He wore three pair of breeches, in one of the pockets of which was found a purse, containing thirteen guineas, and a bank-note for £10, made payable to himself.

In consequence of an advertisement inserted the next day in the newspapers, Mrs. Lionmonger came to Payne's house, and described the watch she had lost; and it proved to be that which had

been concealed in Barrington's hair, and dropped on the floor when he took off his hat. She attended the examination of the prisoner, and, having sworn that the watch produced by Payne was her property, was bound over to prosecute.

Upon his trial, Barrington made a long, an artful, and a plausible defence. He said that, upon leaving the church, he perceived the watch mentioned in the indictment laying upon the ground, and took it up, intending to advertise it the next day; that he was followed to Snow-hill by Payne and another constable, who apprehended him, and had, in all probability, seen him take up the watch. "I reflected (said he) that how innocently soever I might have obtained the article in question, yet it might cause some censure; and no man would wonder, considering the unhappy predicament I stood in*, that I should conceal it as much as possible."

The jury having pronounced the prisoner guilty, he addressed the court, earnestly supplicating that he might be permitted to enter into his majesty's service, and promising to discharge his trust with fidelity and attention; or, if he could not be indulged in that request, he wished that his sentence might be banishment for life from his majesty's dominions. The court informed him, that, by an application to the throne, he might obtain a mitigation of his sentence, if his case was attended by such circumstances of extenuation as would justify him in humbly petitioning to be considered as an object of the royal favour. He requested that the money and bank-note might be returned. Hereupon the court observed, that, in consequence of his

* Alluding to his former conviction.



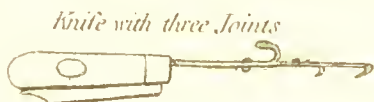
*George Barrington,
as He appears at the Bar of the Old-Bailey.
Drawn by an Artist during the Trial*

Barrington picking the Pocket of J. Brown Esq^r



Key with Hook & Joints

Whalebone Drag



Knife with three Joints



Ring with Springs



DAVID BROWN
DIGNAM

GEORGE
BARRINGTON

Drawn from the Life.

his conviction, the property found on him when he was apprehended became vested in the hands of the sheriffs of the city of London, who had discretionary power either to comply with, or reject, his request.

George Barrington was convicted to labour on the Thames for the space of five years, on Tuesday the 5th of April, 1778.

Barrington was by profession a surgeon; and his education, abilities, and address, were such, that, had they been properly employed, would certainly have introduced him to a genteel competency, and a reputable station in life. He was early attached to dissipation and extravagance, to which the earnings of honest industry proving greatly unequal, he had recourse to felonious practices, for the means of indulging his insatiable desire of engaging in scenes of gaiety and fashionable amusement. Barrington seems to have had a natural taste for dress, in which particular he was never beneath gentility, but frequently bordering upon elegance. His appearance gained him ready admission to the most respectable public assemblies; and he was a frequent visitor in the galleries of both houses of parliament.

Count Orlov, the Russian minister, being in one of the boxes of Drury-lane play-house, was robbed of a gold snuff-box set with diamonds, estimated to be worth an immense sum; and one of the count's attendants suspecting Barrington, seized him, and found the snuff-box in his possession. He was examined by Sir John Fielding; but the count, being in a foreign country, was influenced by motives of delicacy to decline a prosecution.

Some time after the above circumstance, a gentleman observed Barrington in the house of lords,

and pointed him out to Philip Quarme, Esquire, deputy usher of the black rod, who insisted upon his immediately quitting the house, assuring him that his attendance in parliament would, for the future, be dispensed with. We have not heard that he disputed Mr. Quarme's power of expulsion; or that, after the disgrace he sustained from the strong arm of authority, he made any attempt to gain a seat in either house. Barrington was long an accomplice of the famous Miss West, whose memoirs we have recorded in the preceding pages.

How strange is it that, after having experienced the intolerable severities to which offenders sentenced to labour on the Thames are exposed, Barrington should return to his former illegal courses! The horror he expressed, upon being subjected to the same kind of punishment for a longer time, we hope will deter others from following his iniquitous example. To be deprived of all the comforts, conveniences, and almost the very necessities of life—to be cut off from all communication with the rest of mankind—to be condemned to hard, and almost incessant labour—to be exposed, in the most degrading situation to which human nature can possibly be reduced, to public curiosity and public reproach—is a punishment of such extreme severity, that the dread of feeling its complicated miseries we should think sufficient to enforce a due obedience to the laws.



The Case of FRANCIS LEWIS, otherwise GRIMISON, who was convicted of a *Burglary* in the House of THOMAS EDMONDES, Esquire, and executed at *Tyburn*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in April, 1778, Francis Lewis, otherwise Grimison, was indicted for breaking and entering the dwelling house of Thomas Edmondès, Esquire, on the night of the 14th of March preceding, and stealing a gold ring set with diamonds, value £40, and a variety of plate and other valuable articles, to a very large amount.

The fact is this. The prisoner was butler in the family; his master was out of town, and had discharged the footman before he went. Grimison and three maids were all the servants that were left in the house with Mrs. Edmondès. The prisoner, who was a married man, had asked for permission to go and see his wife. He returned about ten at night. Mary Giles, the cook, fastened the door of the area a little before one in the morning. The prisoner slept in the pantry; so that she went to bed, and left him in the kitchen.

About three in the morning, as the watchman was passing, he heard a pistol fired in Mr. Edmondès's house, on which he rattled with his stick against the iron bars of the area, near which the prisoner lay; but receiving no answer, he cried the hour, and at half past three, as he was going his rounds, he heard the prisoner cry out, *O Lord! I shall be dead!* The watchman called out to know what was the matter; and the prisoner answered, "there were rogues, villains, in the house, and he should be dead." The watchman then asked why he did

not open the door? He said, "he could not, for "he was tied."

On this the watchman knocked till two servant-maids came down, who found the prisoner tied in his bed, both his hands being tied to his ancles. He said that the house had been broken open; that "there were three men came in; that the age "of two of them was from thirty to six and thirty, "and the other from twenty to four and twenty; "that they had great coats on, and flapped hats; "that one held a knife to him, and stood over "him all the time, while the other two robbed "the house."

Mary Robson, one of the above-mentioned servant-maids, deposed, that the prisoner said, "three "men came in, and he fired a pistol at one; and "then they tied his hands and legs, and asked "where his mistress's jewels were, and where his "mistress lay? that they then took the plate out "of the closet." She farther deposed, "that he "said that the plate was all carried away; that "they insisted on having the key, and he gave it "to them out of his pocket; that they doubled a "silver tea-board together, tied it up in a table-cloth, and carried it away."

Information of this transaction having been given at Bow-street, three persons were apprehended, supposed to be those that the prisoner had described; but they were discharged, on his saying they were not the men who robbed his master.

On the day after the robbery was committed, Mr. Clarke went from Sir John Fielding's office, to examine how the burglary had been committed. When he came to Mr. Edmond's house, he saw the prisoner sitting by the fire, and having two marks, as if cut with a knife. Mr. Clarke took him

him to the area, on the outside of which was a brick a little broken, on which the robbers were supposed to have stepped. Clarke desired the cook to put up the shutters as they were on the preceding night. She did so: he asked if they were bolted or barred: she said both. He demanded if she would swear before a magistrate that they were bolted and barred: she said, she would not swear that she bolted the place, but would swear that she barred it.

Clarke observed that the bar was a little broke, and that it went into a tenter-hook, which must have been wrenched if the place had been forced open: but the most remarkable circumstance was this; a pane of glass was broken, on the inside of which was a cobweb, which was in such a direction, that it must have been carried away if any one had come through the window.

Clarke now examined the door, and finding that all the force which had been used was on the inside, he had no doubt but that the robbery had been committed by some person within the house: on which he told Mr. and Mrs. Edmondes his opinion of the affair; but the latter seemed very unwilling to admit even a suspicion to the prejudice of the prisoner.

Mr. Clarke then shewed the lady the place, and asked her if she had given the prisoner leave to go out on the preceding night. She said she had permitted him to go and see his wife. Clarke finding that he was married, said, "depend on it the things are at his wife's;" and having obtained a direction where she had lodged, he dispatched Charles Jealous and another person to the house of a grocer in Goswell-street. There they learnt that he was removed to Holywell-street, Clare-market, where

where they found her, having in her possession a large trunk, with a quantity of plate and cloaths in it.

The woman being taken before Sir John Fielding, acknowledged that she was wife to the prisoner; that they were his lodgings, and that he himself had taken them.

In the interim the husband was taken into custody by Clarke, who desired him to acquaint him where the rest of the plate was, that no imputation might lay against the characters of the other servants. On this he acknowledged that he had thrown it into the cistern of his master's house. Hereupon Clarke went to the house, and found the plate at the bottom of the cistern; and among other articles a large waiter bent double.

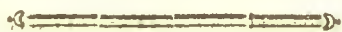
This and many other pieces of plate were produced in court, and sworn to by the prosecutor; on which the jury gave a verdict that the prisoner was guilty of stealing the goods in the dwelling-house; and at the close of the sessions he received sentence of death.

Of the behaviour of this malefactor after conviction no particular account is transmitted us: not any endeavours were exerted to save him, because it was justly presumed that he was unworthy of the royal mercy.

Francis Lewis, otherwise Grimison, was executed at Tyburn on the 24th of June, 1778.

Breach of trust in servants is one of the most atrocious crimes that can be committed; and we seldom find that the servant who is base enough to rob his master and benefactor obtains a pardon; nor indeed ought he. Almost unlimited is the confidence which is placed in many servants, and very sacred should the trust be held.

One principal circumstance that led to the discovery of the offender in this robbery, was the passing of a cobweb across the window. Hence let us learn to admire the wisdom of Providence, which, from the most seeming trifles, frequently produces the most important events!



Account of the Trial of WILLIAM TURNER, JOSEPH DAVIS, and HENRY JORDAN, who were convicted of *Burglary*, and executed at *Tyburn*.

THESE fellows, who were part of a most desperate gang of villains, that had long infested London and its neighbourhood, were indicted at the sessions held at the Old Bailey in April, 1778, for breaking the dwelling-house of Eleanor Errington, widow, about two in the morning of the 26th of December preceding, and stealing plate, gold rings, a watch, silk gowns, and other wearing-apparel, to a considerable amount; together with fifty guineas in money.

Mrs. Errington was a widow woman, who kept a public house called Copenhagen House, in the fields near Islington. Her family consisted of a man and maid-servant, and her daughter, a little girl. The waiter had secured the outer-doors; and Mrs. Errington had fastened the door at the bottom of the stair-case with two bolts on the inside. Hearing a noise, and finding that several people were in the house, she called as to her servants, by several fictitious names, to give the intruders an idea that she had a large family.

The villains having forced the door of the stair-case, and forced the lock of that of her room, one of them appeared with a black face, or a crape over it, and a round frock over his cloaths; the second had a handkerchief tied up to his eyes, and the third carried a dark lanthorn. Mrs. Errington having fire-arms in her room, they seized them, broke open her bureau, and took her linen and other cloaths. On the first alarm she concealed a purse, containing her money, between the bed and the sacking; and she threw a wainscot desk, containing her plate, under the bed, that it might escape their search. One of them, who was called *Captain*, said he was certain that she had plate; and in her fright she was obliged to tell them where it was. They took the plate, and going down stairs, they soon returned, and demanded her money, telling her that they were well informed she was in possession of cash; and at this instant she heard a fourth voice on the stairs, saying, "Don't ask her any questions; cut her throat." They threatened to dash out the brains of her little daughter, who lay with her; and at length terrified her so that she told them where her money was, which they took, together with her watch, which hung at the head of her bed. They likewise took money from her pocket, and some that lay loose in the drawer.

This being done, they went down stairs, sung songs, drank three bottles of wine, and ate some buttock of beef, and cold minced pies. Soon afterwards Mrs. Errington heard one of them on the stairs, asking how she did, and saying that the beef was exceeding good, and that they should call again in half an hour.

They

They now quitted the house ; the report of a pistol was heard, and one of the villains said, “ You did not think it was me, when you shot ; “ I am wounded ; I am afraid I shall be lame.” From their entering the house to their quitting it was near three hours.

Henry Davis, the waiter, being sworn, deposed to the following effect : that he made the doors and windows fast on the preceding night ; that he was awakened by his mistress’s calling ; that two men entered his room, asked him who was in the house, and said they would blow his brains out if he did not tell the truth. They then went into the maid’s room, saying “ they would cut her to “ pieces ;” but she had escaped to an upper room, where she concealed herself through terror. The villains commanding her to come down, she was obliged to obey, and get into her bed ; and then they tied Davis into his bed, and left him bound.

On the first alarm, before they came up into his room, Davis put a gun out at his window, and threatened to fire ; on which one of the robbers said, “ D—n you, fire away ! if you don’t, I will ;” and immediately a pistol was fired, and the rogues ran up stairs. On examination the following morning, it appeared that swan-shot and cut lead were sticking in the chimney-piece, the contents, as supposed, of the pistol above-mentioned.

Andrew Carleton, one of the accomplices, having been admitted evidence, swore, that the prisoners were concerned with him in committing the burglary ; that they met in Southwark in the morning, and in the evening at his lodgings in Feather-bed-lane, Cold-bath-fields ; and that they went the back way to Copenhagen-house, and committed the robbery as above related ; but there are some

particulars in Carleton's evidence that will render it necessary to recite a part of it in the very words in which he delivered it:—"Turner had the
 "crow; Davis and I broke the kitchen window;
 "Turner and Jordan got in first; then a man
 "called out from the house that he would fire.
 "Davis said, "if you don't put your head in I will
 "shoot you." They who were got in called to us
 "without to come in: I jumped with my two hands
 "upon the window in order to get in, and in so
 "doing an old horse-pistol I had in my hand went
 "off and burst, and cut my finger sadly.—I sup-
 "pose the stair-foot-door, which had been bolted
 "on the inside, must have been forced before I
 "got in; for we found no impediment; we all
 "got in: Turner forced a pannel of the mistress's
 "room. Turner bid me *stay there and take care*
 "*of her, and to shoot her if she offered to move.* I
 "objected to going higher up stairs, because the
 "waiter knew me; therefore I was left in the
 "room while they went up and secured the waiter.
 "Turner opened the doors; I and Davis had wags-
 "goners frocks on; I had a handkerchief across
 "my face: I think Davis had a dark lanthorn;
 "we found a box under the bed. Turner said,
 "take the things out one by one; I answered,
 "*Yes, Captain, I will.*"

This evidence deposed to a variety of other circumstances, corresponding with what has been already written; and then Frances Benson swore that she kept a public-house in Redcross-street in the Borough, and bought three gowns of the prisoners for three guineas, and had a pair of buckles into the bargain. She said that the prisoners had used her house before, that they seemed to be acquainted, and had the appearance of smugglers.

Jane

Jane Blundell (sister to the last witness) swore, that she was present when the bargain for the gowns was made, and that all the prisoners were in the house, if not in the room, at the time.

John Clarke produced the gowns and buckles, which he received from Benson and her sister; and Mrs. Errington swore that they were her property.

Percival Phillips proved, that, when the prisoners were apprehended, there were five loaded pistols by their bed-side, and two crows, a dark lanthorn, and some gunpowder, in the room. He farther said, that the landlord of the house delivered him a blunderbuss, which Turner afterwards claimed as his property.

The defence made by the prisoners amounted to almost nothing. Turner endeavoured to impeach the credibility of Carleton, the evidence, asserting that he had been sworn to by four people, as having been concerned in robberies at Finchley. To this the judge said, “his credit the jury will determine upon, when they compare his testimony with the rest of the evidence.”

After a short consultation, the jury gave a verdict, that all the prisoners were guilty; in consequence of which they received sentence of death.

After conviction, there was nothing of extraordinary penitence in their conduct: though young men, they had been old offenders; and as they lived wickedly, they died almost unpitied.

Turner, Davis, and Jordan, were executed at Tyburn on the 24th of June, 1778.

These men had pursued a rapid course of iniquity: but justice failed not to overtake them, and they were but properly punished. Their exit should furnish an example to youth, and teach them that the ways of wickedness evermore lead to destruction.

Narrative of the daring Robbery committed in the House of Mr. DANIEL CLEWEN, Farmer, at Finchley, with an Account of the Trial and Execution of the Offenders.

ABOUT one o'clock in the night between the 1st and the 2d of March, 1778, Thomas Horner, James Fryer, Henry Jordan*, and two other villains, forced the bolts and locks of the back-door of Mr. Clewen's house, which they entered and robbed of twenty-two guineas, a twenty and a thirty pound bank-note, a quantity of plate, several gold-rings, a silver watch, and other property, to a considerable amount. They were a long time in the house, and, though they had disguised themselves, several of the family so exactly described their persons, that Sir John Fielding's officers readily concluded by whom the robbery was committed, and pursued speedy and successful measures for their apprehension.

At the first sessions held at the Old Bailey after the commission of the robbery, the prisoners were brought to trial; and, at their request, the witnesses were examined apart.

William Quick, servant to Mr. Clewen, swore, that between twelve and one o'clock at night between the 1st and 2d of March, he and the other men servants were alarmed by the maid calling "William Carter, for God's sake, get up!" that he heard a noise upon the stairs, and leaped out
of

* This man was convicted, with Turner and Davis, for the burglary at Copenhagen-house.

of bed, when four or five armed men rushed into the room; and by threats of instant death compelled them all to cover their heads with the bed-cloaths; that for some time after he heard the voices of two men, who remained in the room to watch them (as they supposed) while the others rifled the house; and that when these men went away, they said they were going for some victuals, and should return in a quarter of an hour.

Richard Clewen deposed, that, hearing a terrible noise in the house, he rose from his bed, almost at which instant three men entered his room, and having thrown the cloaths over his head, one of them struck him on the back with something which he supposed to be an iron bar; that the villains then went into all the other rooms on the same floor; after which two of them forced him to get out of bed, and to hold his hands before his eyes, while they conducted him to his father's bed in an adjoining room; that, after laying about half an hour, during which time he believed his father and himself were watched by two of the men, he was told he might return to his own bed, and that "he need not hold his hands before his eyes, " as there was no person present whom they were " afraid of his seeing;" that, upon returning to his own bed, he saw a man in the passage, whom he believed to be Fryer, who had a handkerchief tied across his face, but not so as entirely to conceal his features. This deponent added, that a man, whom he believed to be Horner, afterwards came to his bed-side, and said that, if he would declare where the money was concealed, his watch, which had been taken from under his pillow, and laid on a chair, should not be taken from him; that,
about

about a quarter of an hour after the villains were gone, he went down stairs, and found the door at the foot of the stairs fastened, by a staple being driven over the latch ; that this door being forced open by himself and the servants, they discovered that the robbers had entered by the back door, the staple for receiving the bolt of which had been forced off, and was laying at some distance from the door.

Anne Clewen deposed, that three men entered her room, and obliged her to cover her head with the bed-cloaths, and that Jordan was one of them ; and Elizabeth Goodman, Mr. Clewen's maid-servant, who lay on the first floor, in the room where her mistress slept, confirmed that young lady's evidence as to the number of the men, and the threats they used ; and she positively swore to the person of Condon.

This witness further said, that, being alarmed by an uncommon noise in the house, she went out of the chamber, and saw three men rushing up stairs ; upon which she called to the men-servants, who lay in the garret.

John Parsons deposed, that he and three other men-servants to Mr. Clewen lay in the fore garret, which was entered by five men, who threatened to murder them, if they attempted resistance ; and that Condon struck William Quick on the head, saying, " lie still, you bloody thief," and covered him over with the bed-cloaths.

William Carter and Thomas Gregory, the other servants, swore, that five men entered the room ; the former was positive that Fryer and Condon were two of the villains ; and the other swore to the person of Condon only.

Mr.

Mr. Clewen's daughter and maid saw only three of the robbers : but his son and all the men-servants saw five *.

John Bardolph swore that on the general fast, two days preceding that on which Mr. Clewen's house was broke open, he saw Fryer at a public-house near Finchley church, and that he asked several questions concerning Mr. Clewen's family and circumstances ; and Robert Dodd deposed, that he saw the last witness and Fryer in conversation on the fast-day at the public house near the church ; and that the next evening he saw Fryer in company with another man upon Finchley-common.

Fryer occupied a small house in the city-road, where he was apprehended ; and in the house were found a number of pick-lock-keys, and a hanger. Horner was taken at his lodgings in Perkin's Rents, Westminster, and a cutlass was found concealed in his bed. In the room where Jordan was apprehended, at an inn in the Borough, were found two hangers. Condon was taken at an ale-house in King-street, Gravel-lane, but nothing was found upon him of a suspicious nature.

The prisoners, in general terms, declared themselves innocent of the charge alledged against them : but the jury brought in their verdict " guilty." Jordan received sentence of death for the burglary at Copenhagen-house, and the others for that at Mr. Clewen's. Upon the sacrament being administered to Horner and Fryer, they declared that

VOL. V. No. 48.

O o

Condon

* The reader will hereafter find that the other villain, concerned in this daring robbery, was apprehended after the trial of the above offenders.

Condon was not concerned with them in the fact of which they had been convicted, and therefore a respite was granted him on the evening preceding the day appointed for his execution.

On Wednesday the 24th of June, 1778, James Fryer and Thomas Horner were executed at Tyburn.

Considering the great number of executions for house-breaking, and the few instances of the perpetrators of that offence escaping the vengeance of the law, it is really astonishing that men should be so desperately resolved upon their own destruction as to be guilty of a crime which daily experience should convince them that they cannot reasonably expect to commit with impunity. We have had frequent occasion to remark on cases of this kind in the preceding pages, and shall, therefore, be more concise in the present instance. National policy requires that the man who breaks in upon the silent hour of night with a felonious purpose, should be removed from that society of which he has rendered himself an unworthy member; and religion sanctifies the decree that consigns him to the grave who has presumed to act in direct violation of the express command of the Almighty.



An Account of the Trial of MICHAEL CASHMIN, for escaping from on board the *Lighter* on the *Thames*.

FROM the nature of this trial it must be very short, since there was little else to be done than to identify the person of the prisoner.

Michael

Michael Cashmin having been tried in the April sessions preceding, convicted, and sentenced to labour on the Thames seven years, was accordingly sent on board the ballast-lighter, whence, in a very short time, he found means to escape.

On this his second trial, the record of his former conviction was read; and then John Marshall, the mate of the hulk, proved that the prisoner had been confined on board that vessel.

John Evans, a constable, being sworn, deposed that, either on the 16th or 17th of April, he found the prisoner concealed in a loft, near Tottenham-court-road; and that he had a bazzle (which is part of a fetter) on each of his legs.

The prisoner, by way of defence, spoke as follows:—"I was almost starved to death when I was there; there is never a man there but would escape from that place if he could: I would rather be hanged than be there."

This short evidence being gone through, the jury could have no doubt but that Cashmin was the very person that had been sentenced to the ballast-heaving, and had escaped.

Hereupon they brought in a verdict that he was guilty; the consequence of which was, that, on the last day of the sessions, he was sentenced to work on the Thames for fourteen years, being double the term of his former sentence, agreeable to the act of parliament passed for the more effectual punishment of those who presume to escape.

The consequence of this sentence was, that he was again sent on board the lighter, in the month of March, 1779.

We have the rather given a little narrative of this particular case, because we would wish to impress on the minds of our readers in general, and our younger readers in particular, the almost absolute impossibility of a man's escaping the justice of his country. Laws would be framed in vain if there were not officers to see that they were carried into execution. These officers are perpetually on the search after those who have violated, or endeavoured to evade, the punishment of the laws: so that an absolute escape is scarce ever effected.

The inferences we would draw from this subject are, that all persons ought to reverence the laws of the land, and those of honesty: but if, unhappily, a man should, in one instance, be tempted to violate them, and punishment should ensue, he ought to submit patiently to that punishment, and not, by seeking to avoid it, draw down farther vengeance on his head.



Account of the Trial of ALEXANDER SCOTT, for Publishing *False News*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in June, 1778, " Alexander Scott was indicted for
 " that he, on the 23d of April last, unlawfully,
 " wickedly, and maliciously, did publish false
 " news, whereby discord, or occasion of discord,
 " might grow between our lord the king and his
 " people, or the great men of the realm, by pub-
 " lishing a certain printed paper, containing such
 " false news; which said printed paper is of the
 " tenor following:

" In

“ In pursuance of his majesty’s order in council
 “ to me directed, These are to give public notice,
 “ that war with France will be *proclaimed* on Fri-
 “ day next, the 24th instant, at the palace royal,
 “ St. James’s, at one of the clock, of which all
 “ heralds and pursuivants at arms are to take
 “ notice, and give their attendance accordingly.
 “ Given under my hand this 22d day of April,
 “ 1778.

“ EFFINGHAM, D. M.”

We insert this trial merely as a matter of curiosity, and not to cast the slightest imputation on the character of the prisoner, who was certainly imposed on by the artifices of some man who wished to take advantage of the credulity of the good people of England.

The story is this: Scott is by profession a bill-sticker. Between ten and eleven o’clock on the night of the 22d of April, a person muffled up in a great coat, and having his hat flapped, went to the prisoner, and told him he came from Mr. Strahan, the king’s printer, saying “ you stick up bills for him?” Scott answered in the affirmative. The man said he wanted him to stick up some bills in the morning; saying he must stick some round the ‘Change, and one at Wood-street, where war was to be proclaimed; and he demanded what Scott was to have for his trouble. The latter enquired how many bills he had, and the stranger said only a dozen. Scott said he would not charge Mr. Strahan any thing: but the other said he desired he should be paid, and asked if five shillings would do. Scott said it was too much, but his employer insisted on his taking the money, saying it was a thing that did not happen every day.

In

In the morning Scott stuck up nine of the bills about the royal exchange, and one at the end of Wood-street; and as he is an engine-keeper as well as a bill-sticker, he went afterwards before justice Girdler, to make affidavit respecting a fire that had happened.

In the mean time the town was alarmed by the supposed extraordinary news; stocks fell one per cent.*, and the circumstance coming to the knowledge of the lord mayor, he sent to the west end of the town to enquire into the truth of the affair, and found it was all an imposition.

In the mean time, Richard Willis having seen Scott stick up some bills at the Royal exchange, and Thomas Thorn, one of the 'Change keepers, having taken them down, by order of the lord mayor, Joseph Gates, an officer, traced Scott to the Golden cross, a public house opposite justice Girdler's, and told him he must go before the lord-mayor, for he had been guilty of high-treason. Scott said, "I hope not, I have a family of children." Scott said, on his trial, that he had read the proclamation, and did not know but that it was true; and that he had never seen his employer since the time.

On the trial, the earl of Effingham, deputy marshal of England, under the duke of Norfolk, deposed, that the paper was not printed by his direction: that he knew nothing of it till after it was stuck up, nor gave any authority to any person to print or publish such a paper.

Mr.

* Perhaps this is a sum greatly inferior to what the inventor of the scheme supposed they would have fallen.

Mr. Kirby, keeper of Wood-street compter, deposed to the prisoner being put into his custody by a constable; that he (Kirby) was present at his examination at the mansion house, when he owned that he had stuck up the bills, which were brought him the preceding night by a person wrapped in a great coat, who asked him if he could stick them up, to which Scott replied, "Certainly, it is my business."

Mr. John Dench, a broker, proved that he had bought stock one per cent. cheaper that day than the day before, owing to the alarm that was spread through the city, by the pasting up of the above-mentioned paper.

George Pattison deposed, that he worked with Mr. Strahan, and at that time the prisoner used to stick up bills, such as declarations and proclamations; but they were printed in a different manner, having, particularly, a large king's arms at the top. Mr. Pattison being asked if the difference of the usual bills and that in question was so great that the prisoner must have known it to have been a forgery, he replied, "I do not think he knew it." Being asked what marks of forgery there were in it, he said, "I do not know any: in proclamations, *Effingham, deputy marshal*, is generally at length: this is D. M. for deputy marshal."

Lord Effingham now generously spoke as follows: "The prisoner's witness has said that it is a mark of forgery, the paper not having deputy marshal at full length, as they say it generally is in proclamations. I mention it for the prisoner; they mistake it, for that is not the way of signing them neither."

Josiah Roe, a victualler, deposed, that Scott came to his house at half past ten, at night on the

22d of April, and, pulling out one of the bills, said, "What do you think of the war now? I have bills to stick up; it is to be proclaimed on Friday." Mr. Roe said, "Sure nobody has deceived you!" Scott said, "No, they came from Mr. Strahan's;" and the next morning he put up one of the bills in Roe's house: and Mr. Roe was of opinion that he did not know his employer.

William House deposed that he was at justice Girdler's when Scott gave that magistrate one of the papers, and said he had been sticking up bills about war.

The jury did not hesitate to give a verdict that the prisoner was *not guilty*.

Whoever has given an attentive perusal to the preceding account, will see that the whole was a mere scheme to affect the price of stock, if it was not something worse; a scheme of our insidious enemies, the French, to dupe, for some political purpose, the unsuspecting people of this country.

Be this as it may, there was a double artifice made use of, which seems to mark the depth of the plan: the word *proclaimed* was used instead of *declared*; whereas every man of common sense knows that peace is *proclaimed*, and war *declared*. It is likewise observable that the deputy marshal's signature was not in the regular form.

These contrivances seem to have been intended to screen the original offender from punishment, if he had happened to have been discovered: for our laws would have declared that a *proclamation* was not a *declaration* of war; and even the simple alteration from the usual mode of the earl marshal's signing his name, would have acquitted the prisoner.

It is to be lamented that so strict is the attention to the *letter* of the law, that the *intention* of it is but too frequently evaded.

Account of the Trial, Conviction, and Sentence
of MARY WEST, otherwise GROVES.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in July, 1778, Mary West, otherwise Groves, was indicted for stealing a silk purse, two crown pieces, and four shillings and six-pence, the property of John Bastin.

The fact was this. Mrs. Bastin was the wife of a glover in the Strand. Curiosity had led her among the croud that had assembled to see the late Earl of Chatham lie in state. On the 8th of June, about four in the afternoon, she was in Old Palace-yard, when the prisoner, and a woman whom she called her aunt, stood near her. The prisoner offered her assistance in her getting in, to see his lordship lying in state; but Mrs. Bastin said she had been there on the preceding day*. Almost immediately she felt the prisoner's hand in her pocket, and could have seized it in that situation; but that waiting to pull off her glove, Miss West had in the mean time conveyed away her purse. She was charged with the robbery, but denied it.

Mr. Lucas, high constable of Westminster, who well knew Miss West, came up at this juncture, and enquired what was the matter. Mrs. Bastin told him that the prisoner had got her purse; on which he secured her, and took her to the Lobby, where Mrs. Bastin saw her put the purse on a

Vol. V. No. 48. P p ledge;

* Does not this circumstance strongly mark the curiosity of the people of England? If Mrs. Bastin had been there on the preceding day, what business could she have to revisit the croud?

ledge, whence Mr. Lucas took it, and the prosecutrix claimed it as her property, mentioned the money that was in it, and likewise that it contained a baker's bill for bread for the family for a week.

On this Miss West was taken into custody, and lodged in prison till the succeeding Wednesday, when she was conveyed to the office in Bow-street, where the purse was produced, the facts were sworn to, and the offender was committed for trial.

At the Old Bailey Mrs. Bastin positively swore to a crown-piece which had a particular cut in it, and which she had carried in her pocket several years.

Mr. Lucas proved that he saw the prisoner lay the purse containing the pieces of money on a corner of a kind of ledge, at a door-way that leads into the Board of Works: that he immediately seized the prisoner, whom he had before seen in the painted chamber where lord Chatham lay in state. He likewise said, that he had told her she had no business there, and desired the officer to turn her out; and farther, that if she came there any more, he should order the officer to take her into custody. He added, that upon hearing a contest between the prosecutrix and the prisoner, he took the latter into a corner, that she might not get near any person till the officer came.

The prisoner denied that she laid the purse on the ledge, or even ever had it in her hand; and said, that she had a material witness who was not come to town: but no credit could be given to any thing that she averred; her character was notorious; the evidence against her was conclusive, and the jury gave a verdict that she was guilty; in consequence of which, at the close of the sessions, she received sentence to be branded, and imprisoned two years.

Miss

Miss West is one of the most notorious and artful pickpockets that modern times have produced. She used to go by the name of Elizabeth, though, on her last commitment, she chose that of Mary, and called herself Groves, when she was examined at Bow-street, which occasioned the *alias* to her surname; for she was too well known to be permitted to go to trial with Groves as her *first* name.

This woman has long been an atrocious offender: her usual places of plying for business were the play-houses, where she was amazingly successful; and though often apprehended, and conveyed to Sir John Fielding's office, she was repeatedly discharged, because, as she generally stole money only, the injured parties would not swear to their property.

She had been repeatedly tried at the Old Bailey, and acquitted, in defect of such evidence as could convince the jury of her guilt; and it was a very short time before she picked Mrs. Bastin's pocket that she was discharged from Newgate, after six months confinement for another offence, during which she was delivered of a child in the prison.

Miss West has long reigned the principal female pickpocket in London: but she is so perfectly well known; her crimes have been so numerous, and her character is so totally lost, that when the term of her present imprisonment expires, she must expect still less favour than even branding, and a two years imprisonment, if she be again convicted of preying on the property of unoffending individuals.

It may possibly be of some service to give a description of this offender, as it may prevent her artifices from taking effect in particular instances. She is of the middle size, genteelly grown, her countenance is of the oval form, and rather ruddy;

her hair of a moderate brown, her eyes hazle coloured, and her nose inclined to the aquiline; but she is best to be distinguished by a remarkably broad west-country accent, which she cannot disguise. She dresses gay, and is about thirty-five years of age; but looks rather younger.

Persons who may see such a woman crouding into the playhouse, or may happen to sit next her in the gallery, will do well to be cautious, or the pocket will be picked before any suspicion can arise. She will look a man hard in the face, ask him some unmeaning question, and ease him of his cash in an instant.—We have inserted this caution, in the hope that it may be useful.



Account of the Trial of JOHN HOLT, JOHN DAVIS, ANDREW CARLETON, and ALEXANDER CARLETON, for *Burglary*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in July, 1778, these malefactors were indicted for breaking and entering the dwelling-house of Robert Jobling, (the White Horse inn at Cripplegate) and stealing sixteen silver dishes, value £110, sixty-six silver plates, value £285, with a great variety of other plate, (in the whole to the amount of about £2000) the property of Thomas Stapleton, Esq.

George Parvin, the prosecutor's butler, swore that he packed up the plate mentioned in the indictment, and delivered it to Bartholomew Cooper, a carman, directing him to convey it to the White Horse, Cripplegate, whence it was to be taken in the waggon to Mr. Stapleton's house in Yorkshire;
and

and Bartholomew Cooper proved that he conveyed the plate received from Parvin to the White Horse inn, and delivered it to Thomas Crompton, book-keeper to the York waggon.

Crompton deposed, that on the 4th of June he received a quantity of plate, directed to Thomas Stapleton, Esq; in Yorkshire, which he put into the warehouse, and that it remained there when he, as usual, secured the door with two locks, a short time previous to his going to bed; that about five the next morning he was alarmed by the ostler, who told him that the warehouse had been broke open; in consequence of which he went to the warehouse, when he perceived that a burglary had been effected, marks of chissels appearing on different parts of the door post, the bar of the door being much bent, the padlock forced off, and lying on the ground, and three packages being broke open, and therefrom a great quantity of plate stolen. He added, that some time afterwards a bricklayer came to the inn, and gave information that a great quantity of plate, found upon suspicious persons, was secured in Cripplegate watch-house.

The evidence of John Negus, a constable and patrol of Cripplegate ward, was to the following effect: that about two in the morning, between the 4th and 5th of June, he was informed by a watchman that some suspicious persons were in the neighbourhood; on which he went into Paul's alley, leading from Redcross-street to Aldersgate-street, where two men passed him; that presently after a watchman, named William Phillips, came to speak to him, and that while they were in conversation the prisoner Davis came up, whom, from the remarkable bulk of his pockets, they suspected to be a robber, and therefore seized him, when he let fall

fall a bundle, containing several articles of plate, which they deposited in the watch-house, where they conducted the prisoner, and left him under a guard of constables.

William Phillips confirmed the evidence of Negus, adding that, after Davis was secured in the watch-house, he and Negus again went into Paul's alley, where they presently secured Holt and Andrew Carleton; that they found upon Holt several articles of plate tied in a green cloth, and in the pockets of Carleton two silver candlesticks and a loaded pistol.

John Shepherd proved, that he searched the house in which Andrew Carleton lodged, in Harecourt, adjoining to Paul's alley, and found a hanger and a pistol loaded three fingers deep concealed in a cup-board, the key of which was delivered to him by Andrew Carleton; and John Kirby swore, that in an apartment occupied by Alex. Carleton in Cloth-fair he found, between the bed and the mattresses, a dozen of silver plates, half a dozen oval silver dishes, and a silver spoon, and a hanger, and a number of pick-lock keys concealed in the chimney.

The plate being produced, Parvin swore that the several articles were his master's property, and that he packed them up, and sent them to the White Horse inn at Cripplegate.

The prisoners being called upon for their defence, Davis said, that passing through Old-street, about two in the morning, with a returned post-chaise from Barnet, he found the plate which the watchman took from him in Paul's-alley. Holt and Andrew Carleton said, that the plate they were accused of having stolen they found in an opening where drays stand, near the bottom of
White.

Whitecross-street, about two in the morning of the 5th of July. Alexander Carleton said, that besides his apartments in Cloth-fair, he had a room in the house where his brother lodged ; that upon being informed by his brother's wife, that she was fearful her husband was involved in trouble, he searched his apartment, and finding the cutlafs and picklock keys, took them to his lodging in Cloth-fair, and concealed them in the chimney, and that his brother's wife accompanied him with a bundle, the contents of which he then did not know, but had afterwards reason to believe the bundle contained the plate found secreted between the bed and the mattrafs. The jury brought in a verdict of guilty against all the prisoners, and they were sentenced to suffer death.

John Holt and Andrew Carleton were executed at Tyburn on the 19th of October, 1778, the former evidencing the deepest marks of contrition*.

The above malefactors had been almost entirely denied the advantages of education, and seemed to have but very imperfect notions of religion.

It is to be lamented that greater care is not taken to instil the principles of virtue and religion into the minds of youth, who would thereby be rendered less liable to be seduced into the paths of vice. There are comparatively but few, among the violators of the law, who are not the offspring of the poorer classes of the people.

At the charity-schools, children are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic; but, we are sorry to say, very little attention is employed to inspire

* Alexander Carleton died in Newgate ; and it will be seen that Davis was hanged for the robbery at Copenhagen-house.

inspire them with just sentiments of religious and moral obligations. They are permitted to range the streets at all hours, and consequently are witnesses to scenes of infamy in all their horrid variety. Is it surprizing that, when their minds are most susceptible of impressions from outward objects, a familiarity with vicious examples should disqualify them for perceiving the abominable deformity of vice?

It is strange that political considerations have not prompted the legislature to adopt measures for more effectually defending the morals of the infant poor from corruption, which would tend towards ensuring obedience to the laws, and greatly encrease population, on which our national safety so materially depends.

“ Princes and lords may flourish and may fade,
 “ A breath can make them, as a breath hath made;
 “ But a bold peasantry, their country’s pride,
 “ When once destroy’d, can never be supplied.”

GOLDSMITH.



Proceedings on the Trial of WILLIAM FLINT,
 who was convicted of *privately Stealing*.

WE mention the case of this malefactor, not that there was any thing extraordinary in the robbery itself; but because the prisoner was an old criminal, and had offended after experiencing the royal mercy.

William Flint had been tried for a former offence at the Old Bailey, and sentenced to three years labour on board the ballast-lighter, where he behaved so well for some months, that representa-
 tions

tions were made to the king in his favour, and the remainder of his punishment was remitted.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in September, 1778, William Flint was indicted for stealing a silver watch, value 40s. the property of Aaron Coats, privily from the person of the said Aaron, on the 16th of August.

Mr. Coats deposed, that being at a fire in Nicholas lane, on the evening of the 16th of August, he staid about half an hour, from motives of curiosity; and that on coming from the fire he felt for his watch in Lombard-street, and missed it; but he owned that he had not seen the prisoner at the fire.

Mr. Coats advertised his watch four days afterwards, and soon learnt that the prisoner was at Sir John Fielding's, charged with that and other offences; on which he went to Bow-street, where his watch was produced to him.

William Adley, a pawnbroker in Cow-cross, deposed, that the prisoner brought the watch to him, to offer it in pledge; that he asked him two guineas, that he lent him a guinea and a half on it; and Flint took a duplicate of it in his own name.

Moses Morant, one of Sir John Fielding's officers, deposed, that he went to apprehend Flint, two boys, and another person; that in Flint's parlour he found the duplicate of Mr. Coats's watch, and an old seal which had belonged to it; and the watch being produced, was sworn to by the prosecutor.

The prisoner, by way of defence, said, that a person had given him the watch to pawn for him; but the jury gave no credit to this assertion, and found him "Guilty of stealing the watch, but not guilty of stealing it privily from the person."

In consequence of this verdict, Flint was put to the bar at the close of the sessions, to receive his sentence, which was, that he should work on the navigation (that is at ballast-heaving) for five years.

This Flint was a manufacturer, as we have been informed, in the silver branch, and lived in Quaker's buildings, West-Smithfield. He had two apprentices, whom he trained to the art of thieving, principally by picking of pockets.

At the sessions above-mentioned, Flint was indicted, together with William Boston, Thomas Elburn, and George Goodburn, for stealing a silver pepper castor and a table spoon, the property of Jane Benham, mistress of the Catherine Wheel inn at Colnbrook; when they were all acquitted, except Goodburn, (one of Flint's pupils) who was sent on board the ballast-lighter for three years; and Elburn being tried on another indictment, at the same sessions, and convicted, was sentenced to a similar punishment.

Hardness of heart is the characteristic of continued villainy. Flint had experienced the royal mercy, which was more than he deserved; but this appears to have had no influence on his future conduct: he was resolved to continue his depredations on the public, though he was well capable of supporting himself in a handsome manner, by the honest profits of his profession.

The master who, as Flint did, sets an ill example to his servants, is deserving of the severest punishment; and one would almost lament, for the sake of the rising generation, that this fellow was not made an example of the utmost rigour the law can inflict.

Abstract

Abstract of the Trials of THOMAS BRISTOWE and MORRIS BARNARD, who were convicted of a Conspiracy to *cheat* and *defraud*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in September, 1778, these offenders were indicted for a conspiracy to cheat and defraud one Thomas Orme; and for obtaining, by false pretences, five guineas, on the 28th of June preceding.

This case is inserted on account of its singularity, and to guard the unsuspecting against the artifices of the villainous. Thomas Orme, of Castle Dunnington in Leicestershire, being somewhat embarrassed in his circumstances, was advised by a neighbour to apply to Brislowe, who had published the following extraordinary advertisement in the news-papers printed at Leicester:—"Whereas
 " many persons, labouring under most grievous
 " oppressions from their defenceless situation, are
 " constrained to silence and quiet submission to the
 " atrocious robberies which are daily committed
 " by the infamous appendages to the law:

" To remedy such evils as much as possible, a
 " gentleman of known abilities and integrity, in
 " conjunction with sundry able gentlemen of the
 " law, proposes to give his assistance to such as
 " wish to be extricated from intricate and perplexed
 " embarrassment.

" The author is actuated by no other motives
 " than those which tend to alleviate the affliction
 " of the helpless, to relieve the unfortunate of
 " every denomination, against the chicanery of

“ pettyfogging (would be) attornies; the shameful
 “ plunder and extortion of bailiffs and sheriffs
 “ brokers; and to prop up such as groan beneath
 “ opulent and intolerable tyranny.

“ That unhappy species of debtors, who are
 “ amenable to the bankrupt laws. will assuredly
 “ meet with such able and friendly advice as will
 “ fortify them, not only against a prison. but most
 “ of those calamities attendant on bankrupts in
 “ general.

“ The supporters and advisers of this address
 “ hope it will be received and esteemed to be
 “ what it really is, the dictates of benevolence,
 “ independent of any pecuniary views; as a proof
 “ of which, all persons in indigent circumstances
 “ will be entitled to every assistance free from
 “ expence.

“ Apply to Mr. Thomas Bristowe, Cavendish-
 “ bridge, Leicestershire.”

In consequence hereof Orme applied to Bristowe, who told him if he would go to London he would set him free; and if his creditor would not stay, he might tell him he would *treat him with the butt end of an act of parliament*. Orme enquired the expence; and Bristowe said seven or eight pounds, and that they should be back in four or five days. They came to London with one Simon Norton, in like circumstances with Orme; and at the Swan-with-two-necks in Lad-lane they met with Barnard, who said to Bristowe, “ We must swear one
 “ has been at Calais, and the other at another
 “ place,” (which Orme could not recollect). Bristowe then wrote a paper for them to sign, and told Norton he must pay Barnard five guineas: Norton hesitated, and wanted a receipt. Barnard asked him,

him, if he *disputed his being a gentleman*. On this Norton paid the five guineas; and Bristowe said that Orme must pay Barnard a like sum; which, after some hesitation, he complied with.

On a question asked, whether any thing was said about crossing the salt-water, Orme deposed that something was said “about crossing the salt-water “over a piss-pot,” or to that effect.

It seems that the prosecutors had a confused idea that they were to be discharged by the insolvent act, but they did not understand the meaning of it.

Simon Norton deposed that he met Barnard at the Swan-with-two-necks; that he and Bristowe asked for a private room, where Barnard pulled out a bag of writings, and said to Bristowe, “We “must fix them as fugitives.” Bristowe agreed, and the other began filling up the papers. Bristowe likewise said, that Barnard was an attorney, and that he was the man that was to do the business for them.

A paper being shewn to Orme in court, he said, “that is the paper I signed, and all that was done “for five guineas.”

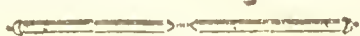
William Payne (a constable) deposed, that he apprehended the prisoners at the Paul’s-head tavern; that he seized Barnard’s bag, who said, “let it alone,” and pulled out the two schedules. Payne asked Barnard, if he had received any money of the men; he said he never had: the two men declared they paid him ten guineas. He then confessed he had received that sum, and given Bristowe five guineas. The latter at first denied the receipt of them, but afterwards confessed it.

Bristowe called three persons, who gave him a good character; and Barnard endeavoured to exculpate

culpate himself, by saying that “ he had nothing “ to do with the men; that Bristowe was to be “ his paymaster, and had told him they were to “ take the benefit of the act as fugitives, &c.” with other circumstances to the like effect.

The jury gave full credit to the evidence against the prisoners, and delivered a verdict that they were both guilty; in consequence of which, at the close of the sessions, they were sentenced to stand in the pillory, and be imprisoned for a year.

As far as can be judged of this affair, it seems to have been an artful device of two villains to rob two unsuspecting countrymen of their property, under the most fallacious pretences; and indeed the jury seemed to have been of the same opinion, by the verdict that was given.



Account of the Trials of FRANCES PEARCE, ANNE ARROGONY, and CATHERINE DAVIS, otherwise SIMPSON, for a *Street-Robbery*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in * October, 1778, the prisoners were indicted for robbing Henry Kitchen, Esq; of a bank-note, value £15, two bills of exchange, the one for £350, and the other for £150, and several other bills to a considerable amount, on the night of the 15th of September.

As Mr. Kitchen was passing near the New-church, in the Strand, after ten at night, three women surrounded him, and took his pocket-book

* Mr. Kitchen was then lately elected to the office of sheriff of London and Middlesex.

book from him, which contained notes to the value of 14 or £1500. He saw four hands held up: he cried *Watch*, and *Stop thief!* and instantly secured Pearce, but did not see the pocket-book in her hand. The other women ran away.

Elizabeth Mills, an unhappy woman of the town, deposed that she saw Simpson and Arrogony near Mr. Kitchen; that they were one on each side of him. This deponent saw only those two women at that time. When Mr. Kitchen came near the New-church, Davis ran away, and the other fell down in attempting to run off. Mr. Kitchen cried out, “Stop thief—I am robbed.” Five or six women standing near the church, he seized one of them, and said, “I have got you; I have got you.”

On the cross-examination, this evidence said, that the woman had walked with Mr. Kitchen from St. Clement’s church-yard, arm in arm; and that when he came near the New-church five or six women were standing together; and he said, “I have got you all.”

To invalidate the testimony of this witness, Samuel Price, a bailiff, was sworn, who deposed, that he had known her ten years, and that he did not believe she was such a woman as deserved credit on her oath. Mary Hayes likewise deposed, that she was a very abandoned woman, that she had assumed several names, and ought not to be believed even under the sanction of an oath.

Amelia Burchell swore, that she saw the prosecutor seize Pearce, and that he said he was robbed; and Elizabeth Thompson deposed, that she had likewise heard him say that he was robbed; that she saw Davis having hold of his arm; that Arrogony was four yards behind him, but at what distance Pearce was she did not know.

The jury, having considered the whole evidence, acquitted Arriogony and Davis, and found Pearce guilty of the charge, in consequence of which she received sentence to be imprisoned three years.

The notes thus stolen from Mr. Kitchen were passed into the hands of some Jews; but, by the diligence of the peace-officers, about half of them were recovered.

We have the rather mentioned this case, because women seldom commit street-robberies without the assistance of men. Women of the town are as usually attended by their bullies, as bailiffs by their followers.—The men who reduce poor credulous girls to the necessity of plying to the casual passenger in the street have much to answer for.

Even seduction, however, and its consequent distress, is no plea for acts of dishonesty, or for a continuance in the path of vice. London and Westminster abound with hospitals for the reception of the diseased or really unfortunate; and there is parish provision, at least, for all those who are utterly distressed; and any provision is preferable to a determined perseverance in the practice of wickedness.



Account of the Trial, Conviction, and Execution
of JAMES BEAN, JOHN HARTLEY, and
LAMBERT SMITH, who suffered for *Burglary*.

THESE men, though young in years, were old in offence, and therefore it becomes necessary to insert their story, that others may take warning from their fate.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in December, 1778, James Bean, John Hartley, and Lambert Smith, were indicted for breaking the dwelling house of Levi Hart, on the 20th of October, and stealing 68 silver watches, value 119*l.* 10*s.* a number of gold breast shirt buckles, set with pearls and garnets, some gold rings, and other valuable articles, the property of Abraham Davis.

The prosecutor is a travelling Jew, who carries goods through the country. He had a room on the first floor at Mr. Hart's, and saw all his things safe between six and seven in the evening, when he went to a coffee-house, and soon afterwards Hart fetched him home, informing him that his apartment had been robbed. When he came home, he found two locks, and his jewellery boxes, broke, and missed all his property.

Levi Hart deposed, that he was landlord of the house; that some person knocking at the door, his wife opened it, and three men rushed in, who said "they had an information against the house." Mrs. Hart asked for what; when the candle was snatched from her, and two of them went up stairs, while the third staid below. Mr. Hart heard them break open the door; and when they had stolen Mr. Davis's property, they descended, threw the

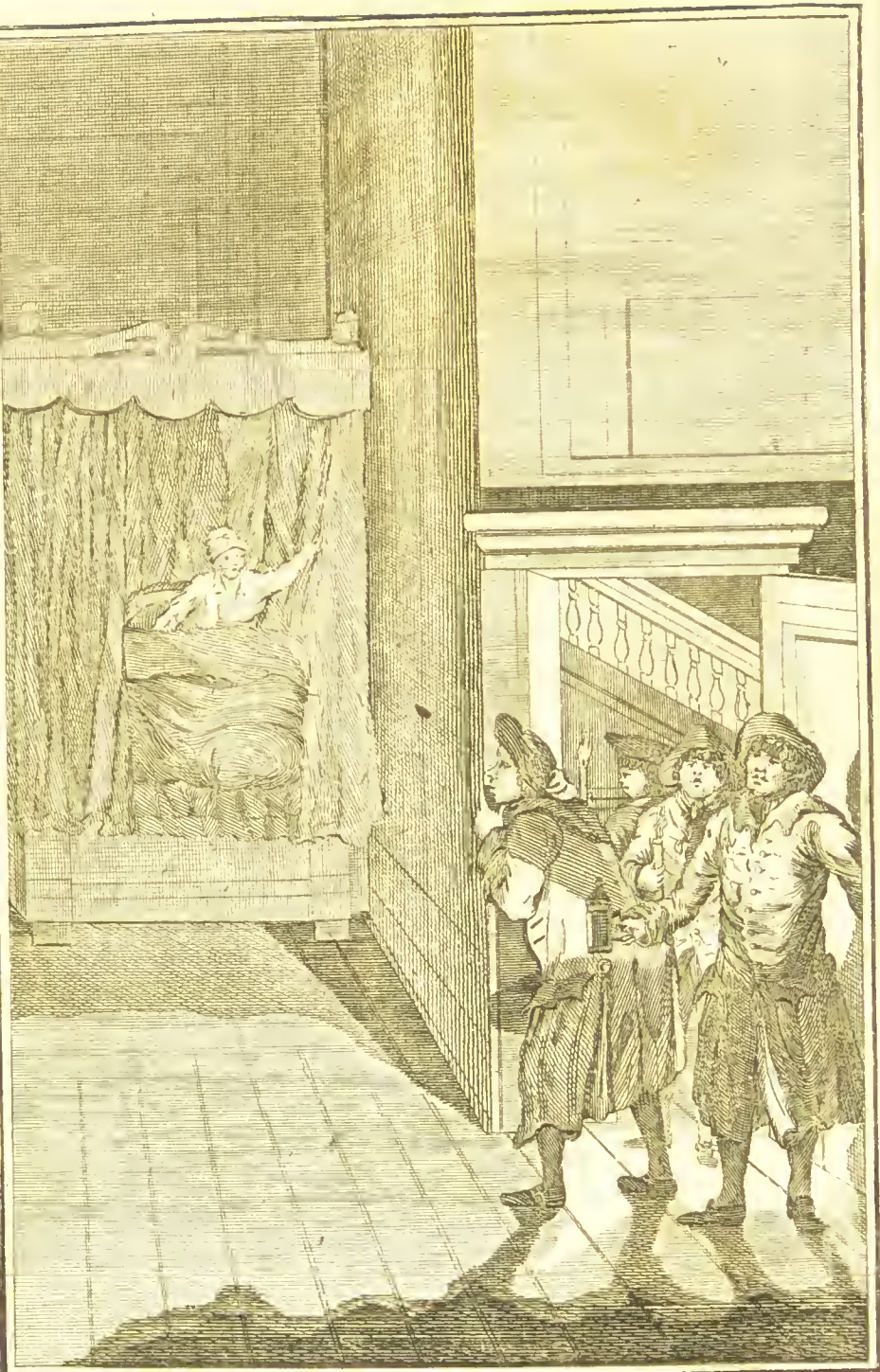
candlestick on the floor, and went away : but one of them held the door awhile, to prevent a pursuit : Mr. Hart deposed, that he knew Smith, and could swear to him ; but he could not swear to the other two.

Sarah Hart confirmed her husband's deposition ; said that hearing a knocking at the door, she opened it, when the three men rushed in, and said they had an information against the house, against a young man, a lodger, who dealt in French silks ; that on her asking if they had authority to come into her house, one of them produced a pistol to her husband and said, *if he stirred, he was a dead man* ; that she heard the closet broke open, and on her wanting to go up stairs, the villain who was below pushed her away twice, and seized her by the throat. She deposed, that she knew all the prisoners, having looked in their faces as they entered the house ; and she positively swore that Smith put a pistol to her husband's breast.

Information of this robbery having been given at Bow-street, Sir John Fielding's men soon traced the thieves ; and, on the trial, Charles Jealous produced a watch, which he found on Lambert Smith, who said it was his own : but Richard Simpson proved that he made that very watch for Aaron Michael, who deposed that he left it, with two other watches, &c. in the care of the prosecutor.

Richard Ward swore, that he bought forty-one watches of James Bean, all of which he had sold but one, and that proved to be Mr. Davis's property.

Bean, by way of defence, said that Smith knew nothing of the robbery ; and that himself had the watches to sell for another man. Smith said that he



*John Hartley, Sa^{ty} & c^o, and their accomplices in the
House of M^r CLEWIN, at FINCHLEY,
where they committed a Burglary.*

he had a watch of Bean, to get a glass put in it; and Hartley denied being guilty of the charge: but the jury found all the prisoners guilty, and they received sentence of death.

It may be proper to mention that, at the same sessions, Hartley and Bean were tried for being concerned in breaking open the house of Mr. Daniel Clewin, of Finchley, on the 1st of March preceding, and were convicted on the fullest evidence: but, as we have already given an account of the other parties concerned in that atrocious burglary, it will be unnecessary to enter into particulars.

Of the behaviour of these criminals after conviction we have no favourable account. They were most daring and hardened offenders; and as they lived in constant violation of the laws, so they died almost unpitied.

James Bean, John Hartley, and Lambert Smith, were executed at Tyburn on the 12th of February, 1779.

Surely our younger readers cannot need the least caution to avoid treading in the steps which brought these young fellows to such a fatal and disgraceful end. It is but a very few years since Hartley was a mere child, playing about the dirty allies adjoining to Water-lane, Fleet-street; but an attachment to bad company soon led him to the practice of every vice that his youth was capable of, and he fell an untimely victim to the insulted laws of God and his country.

Learn hence, ye youths, those paths to shun
Which quick to sure destruction run;
And O! pursue that happier way
That leads to realms of endless day.

Account of the Trial of SAMUEL BONNER, who was convicted of writing a threatening Letter, with a design of extorting Money from Mrs. SARAH TESHMAKER.

BONNER was born at Edmonton in Middlesex, in the neighbourhood of which place he had many years worked for different persons as a day-labourer, and bore the character of an honest, industrious, but simple man.

The following is a copy of the letter written by Bonner, and delivered by the penny-post to Mr. Francis Hardcastle, landlord of the Fox upon Winchmore-green, whom Mrs. Teshmaker had directed to receive her news-papers and letters, that the news-carriers and post-men might not be put to the trouble of going out of the public road, from which her house stood at some distance.

“ Lady Teshmaker Nov. 20th, 1778.

Wee dwo a blige You that you shall dwo this kindness of Charity to theas three people which wee menstion to you that his the Wheader Wakefield James Weave and Old Bonner & make each of them a preasant of one Gine & half to a Sift them in thear Distrefs. One Sunday morning being the 22th of Nor. and send for them all three to your House be tween 11 and 12 & let one of you Sarvents give them this gift in a peas of paper & this leater never to be menstioned for the safty of your Self If you dwo not dwo a Corden to what this leater menstions you may expect that your Estate shall be Broght to ashes and Your Self to the Ground with a brase of marvels throu your C

It is not ondley you others shall be a blige to dwo the kindness of Chearity to the poor a-pon Winch-

more

S. BONNER—for *writing a threatening Letter*. 309

more hill as well as you wee are men that is well
wishes to the poor near neabers a short life and a
meary one

This from your well wishers If you
act a Corden to this Leater"

The prisoner was brought to trial at the Old
Bailey in the sessions held in December, 1778.
Mrs. Testmaker produced the letter, and it was
read, and found literally to correspond with the
copy inserted in the indictment: the lady deposed,
that on her return from a visit on the 21st of the
preceding month, she found the letter lying on
her dressing-table.

Francis Hardcastle swore that he received the
letter from the penny-post man, and delivered it to
John Draper, one of Mrs. Testmaker's servants,
who proved that the letter produced in court was
that he received from Hardcastle.

Samuel Draper, clerk to Pearce Galliard, Esq;
in the commission of the peace for the county of
Middlesex, informed the court, that on Monday the
30th of November he, accompanied by Mr. Day,
went to Clerkenwell bridewell, in order to post-
pone the re-examination of Bonner from Tuesday
till Wednesday; and that when the prisoner was let
into the yard between the gates, he ran towards
them, and acknowledged that he had written the
letter, saying it was the first offence he had com-
mitted, and earnestly supplicating that they would
intercede in his favour.

Matthew Day deposed that, by the desire of Mr.
Draper, he accompanied him to Clerkenwell bride-
well on Monday the 30th of November, and stood
in an obscure part of the yard during a short con-
versation between Draper and the prisoner, on the
conclusion of which he was perceived by the pri-
soner,

soner, who ran to him, clasped him in his arms, and cried, "Pray, Sir, God bless you! Sir, be my friend, and get me out of this dismal place; you was always my friend;" that he asked him on what account he was confined; on which he said, "Oh, God knows! God bless you, Sir, get me out of it; you will, if you are my friend, get me out of it;" that, in a whisper, he acknowledged that his having written a threatening letter to the prosecutrix was the cause of his confinement, and said, "O, Sir, it was the devil, the devil, the devil, and this leg, (putting his hand to his leg, on which he had some time before received a wound) that induced me to do it. It is true I did write this letter, but it is the first fact I ever was guilty of."

Being called upon for his defence, the prisoner only said that what Mr. Day had related was truth; and upon the court asking him whether he had any person to appear on behalf of his character, he said, "only God and the gentleman."

The jury pronounced him guilty of the indictment, and he received judgment of death. The jury and the prosecutrix humbly recommended the prisoner to his Majesty's mercy, which he received.

If the law did not denounce very severe punishment against offenders convicted of writing threatening letters, neither life nor property would be any longer secure. Bonner's case was remarkable: there was great reason to suppose that, notwithstanding the violent threats in the letter, he would not have carried them into execution, had the lady refused her compliance, and declined pursuing measures for apprehending the writer; he was a man remarkably deficient in point of intellect.

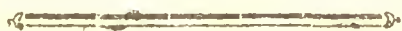
In



SAM^l BONNER (under commitment for writing a
threatening Letter to. M^{rs}. Teshmaker of Winchmore Hill)
imploing assistance from M^r. DAY.

In cases of forgery, the punishment is the same, whether a fraud is or is not actually committed, the fact of forgery being sufficient to prove a fraudulent intention, and to constitute a breach of the law; and this doctrine holds good with regard to threatening letters.

Let it not be supposed that robberies may be committed with impunity by means of threatening letters, the writers of which are equally liable to an ignominious death with the perpetrators of the most desperate crimes.



An Account of the singular Case of ROBERT MOODY, who was tried for a *Rape*, and acquitted.

ON Wednesday the 2d of December, 1778, Sarah Bethell charged Robert Moody, a waterman, with ravishing her in his boat, on his passage between Queenhithe and Wandsworth, between seven and eight o'clock in the evening of the 10th of November preceding.

Though the evidence given on this occasion at Bow-street did not seem by any means conclusive against the prisoner, yet, as Mrs. Bethell swore positively to the perpetration of the fact, the magistrates thought themselves in duty bound to commit the prisoner for trial*.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in December, 1778, Robert Moody was indicted for ravishing Sarah, the wife of William Bethell, against her will.

The

* This circumstance is worthy of remark.—Tho' a Justice of Peace, and a hundred persons who may

The prosecutrix swore, that, having spent the day in London, she went to Queenhithe, where she saw the prisoner, whom she had known for some years; that she went with him into the boat, together with the beadle of Fulham, who finding the weather cold, landed at Westminster bridge, and said he would go by the stage; that she being now left alone with Moody, he stopped at the Spread Eagle at Mill-Bank, where they drank some gin-hot together; that they again stopped at the King's Head at Chelsea, where the prisoner had a pint of beer, but she did not drink with him; that she was perfectly sober when they again got into the boat, and just before they got to Battersea-bridge, Moody said, "Mrs. Bethell, give us a song;" which she declined to do, saying she was not so light-hearted.

Being asked what she meant by light-hearted, she said that her husband had been out of his mind, and discharged as incurable from a madhouse, which circumstance disturbed her mind. She deposed that, on her refusing to sing, he swore, "if she could not sing, she should do the other thing," and that having pulled her down from the stern to the bottom of the boat, he said if she mentioned his name, or screamed out, he would throw her over. She farther deposed, that she made all possible resistance; notwithstanding which, he perpetrated the deed for which he was indicted.

She

be present, be fully convinced of the innocence of an accused party, yet the magistrate is bound to commit, if the accuser positively swears to the charge. Hence we may learn how sacred and important is the power vested in our Juries.

She now threatened (according to her own account) to expose him; but he swore “ he did not “ mind being exposed.” After this she said he rowed quietly to Wandsworth, without offering any farther violence; and that she went directly to the house of her brother, Mr. Firmage, and related to his wife what had passed.

Mary Firmage deposed, that she came to her house about half an hour after seven at night, and appeared to have been very much tumbled and *moussled* about; and seemed to be much agitated in her mind. The husband being in the shop, Mrs. Firmage took her sister-in-law into another room, and asked her what was the matter; to which she replied, that she had been used very ill by Robert Moody, who had committed a rape on her.

John Firmage, the father of Sarah Bethell, deposed, that he was sent for to his daughter, who said that Moody had used her very ill; on which this deponent said, he would make him suffer for it, and he should have what the law directed:—that on the following day, as he was going by his son’s house, Moody came out, and said, “ for God’s “ sake, have compassion upon me! consider my wife “ and children.”

Mr. Firmage and his daughter went to the Rotation-office in the Borough; but finding they had made application at an improper place, as the offence was presumed to have been committed on the Chelsea side of the river, they went to Sir John Fielding’s, where they obtained a warrant; but this warrant was not served till the 27th of the month, in compassion, as was alledged, to the situation of the prisoner’s wife, who lay-in at the time.

The prisoner, by way of defence, declared his total innocence of the fact; and, as it had been insinuated that he had absconded, in fear of being apprehended, he said he knew he had not offended.

On behalf of the prisoner, Martha Harrold was sworn, who gave a whimsical kind of evidence. She deposed, that Mrs. Firmage told her Bob Moody had committed a rape on Mrs. Bethell. Mrs. Harrold expressed her doubt of the fact, as they got twice out of the boat to drink: however, she went to Mrs. Firmage's, where she said, to use her own words, "how do you do now, after your *merry-bout*?" Being asked what was Mrs. Bethell's behaviour, she said, "she is a very *jokeus* merry woman, and not quite so sedate as some might be;" and that she had seen the hands of James Nicholls down her bosom. Being asked if she believed Mrs. Bethell to be a virtuous, modest woman; she replied, "I cannot pretend to say whether she is or not. I can only say, according to my belief, she is not so good as some may be; she is very vulgar in her speech." To this the court answered, "her behaviour does not appear to be so vulgar as your own."

Being asked, on her cross examination, if she thought it proper for a woman of decency to ask another "how she did after this *merry-bout*," and "whether she thought a rape was a *merry-bout*;" her answer was, "she is a *jokeus* woman—I only thought it a joke."

Elizabeth Wills, of the King's-head at Chelsea, deposed, that the prosecutrix and prisoner had drunk together at her house, and appeared to be on very good terms; and that when they quitted the house they went out arm in arm; and on their leaving

leaving the tap-room, some men wished them good luck, because they saw them very sociable together. This witness farther deposed as follows: “ He (the prisoner) called at our house on the Friday after the rape was committed; he asked me if I recollected his calling there on the Tuesday? I said, I did. He had a man went in his boat from our house that night.”

A waterman being sworn, deposed, that he was on the water on the evening of the presumed rape: that Moody came within four or five boats length of him, and was very merry and singing:—that he did not hear any body scream out or make a noise; and that if there had been any noise, he must have heard it. He said that when he first saw Moody, he was rowing, and somebody was sitting upright at his back-board, but he could not tell whether it was a man or a woman.

William Pike, a waterman, gave the following evidence:—that he was putting his boat right when the prosecutrix and prisoner got into their boat from the King’s-head: that he (this deponent) staid at the water-side five or six minutes; that he did not hear a screaming, outcry, or any noise made by a woman;—and that the wind was in his favour to have heard any noise.

John Ingram, a youth of sixteen, remembered Mrs. Bethell landing with the prisoner on the night when the offence was alledged to have been committed. This witness swore, that he handed the prosecutrix out of the boat, and that she asked Moody if he would have any thing to drink? To which he answered, “ no more to night, thank you.” They parted immediately, after they had mutually kissed each other; and she said, “ God bless you, good night.” The counsel for the pro se-

cution asked Ingram, if it was not a dark night? He owned that it was, but there was light enough from the public-house to enable him to see the parties. John Carter, master to the last witness, gave him an excellent character, saying he had never known him guilty of telling a lie.

The following persons appeared to the prisoner's character.—Elizabeth Benson had known him eight or nine years; had been in his boat late and early, and had never seen any thing amiss of him in her life: she had been after dark with him from London to Wandsworth, and averred that he was a sober, honest man, who did his best to maintain his family.

Mrs. Kenrick, who lived next door to him, had known him nine years, had been with him early and late by land and water, and deposed, that he bore an extraordinary good character.

Martha Leech had known him eighteen years: she said she had gone hundreds of times in his boat, at all hours, by night and by day; that he had never behaved immodestly to her in his life; and that he was an honest, civil man.

Esther Davis, who was only twenty-eight years of age, had known him eighteen years; had gone with him morning, noon, and evening, when he had always behaved with the greatest civility, and was an honest, industrious, sober man.

These testimonies of the women were confirmed by John Hodges, who had known him seven years; Ambrose Noswell, twenty-four; and Thomas Edmonds, fourteen; the latter of whom said that he had a very good character, that he was willing to take care of his family, and he concluded by saying, "he is an indulgent husband, and as fond a father as can be."

After

After the evidence that has been recited, it is not to be wondered that the Jury brought in a verdict that the prisoner was *Not Guilty*.

We have been the more particular in the recounting of this trial, because we think the acquittal of Moody does honour to his Jury. It is needless to say that Juries should always take the favourable side of the question, where there is any doubt of the guilt of the accused party. It is to the credit of our English Juries, that this is generally the case.

We do not mean, on this occasion, to assert that the prosecutrix was perjured; but surely the evidence brought to criminate the prisoner was insufficient to satisfy the mind of any reasonable man.

In cases of rape particular caution ought to be used by those who are to be judges of the fact. A rape is one of the most atrocious of crimes, and one of the most difficult to be proved, as the proof of it must generally depend on the single testimony of the party supposed to be injured.

The violation of the will constitutes the essence of the crime; for the personal injury is nothing, compared with the idea of a man's assuming the Bashaw, and saying that a woman shall be a slave to his lust.

In the course of this work we have hitherto concluded each trial with a serious remark: We shall finish this with an anecdote.

In the reign of Queen Anne, a man * was apprehended, tried, and convicted, for committing a rape on

* The name of the party is not mentioned in the printed accounts, or we should have given the trial in this work.

on a common woman of the town. Great intercession was made to save the convict, on account of the character, and situation in life, of the woman. At this juncture Dean Swift happened to be in England, and was in high favour with the ministry. In a letter to a friend in Ireland the Dean relates some of the particulars of the case, and says, "shall
 " a woman be ravished because she is a whore?
 " No, no, I'll take care of that;—the fellow shall
 " be hanged, if I have any interest with the people
 " in power:" and we are told that the man was hanged accordingly.

Particulars of the Trial of JOSEPH RELPH,
 who was indicted for *Murder*, and found guilty
 of *Man-slaughter*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey, in December, 1778, Joseph Relph, mariner, was indicted for the wilful murder of Andrew Schultz on the 26th of November preceding; and he likewise stood charged on the coroner's inquisition, for feloniously killing and slaying the said Andrew.

The prisoner was employed in the impress service, and the following is the state of the evidence adduced on the trial.—John Clear swore, that he was a beadle of Wapping; that Mr. James Stewart, a tallow-chandler, called him from the Mason's lodge, and told him a man was murdered: that he went to the sign of the Gibraltar, where he found the prisoner leaning down in a box, having the fingers of his left hand, which were bloody, tied in a handkerchief: that on this deponent's asking what
 was

was the matter, Relph said he had been used ill, and cut to pieces; that he went with him quietly to the Round-house, and the next day before a magistrate, who committed him to New-prison.

John Hageman deposed, that he was a servant to Mr. Compton, sugar-baker, in Brewer's-lane; there were five of his companions, all of whom were going home to Mr. Compton's; that they were all on the foot-pavement, and the deceased was running before him: that he saw a woman with a lantern in her hand crossing the way, and a girl about eight years old with her; and that Hardwicke (one of the company) lifted up the woman's petticoats behind.

The counsel now interposed, and said, he should prove that the woman and child were the wife and daughter of the prisoner.

Hageman proceeded, and said that the woman having walked a hundred yards, the prisoner overtook them; on which his wife pointed to Hardwicke, and said, "This is the young man that laid hold of my gown." The prisoner crossed to Hardwicke, and asked him what business he had to meddle with the woman's gown. Hardwicke made no reply; and one Kello coming up at the juncture, said to the lieutenant, (Relph) "Sir, I am your prisoner, and will go with you where you like." This evidence farther deposed, that the lieutenant took Hardwicke by the neck, and pulled his hat off.

John Kello was now sworn; but not being perfect in the English language, an interpreter was sworn to deliver his evidence, which was to the following effect: that Andrew Schuler was one of the party, returning with his fellow-servants to Mr. Compton's; that he himself was sober, but

doubted if Hardwicke was not somewhat in liquor : that he did not see the prisoner till he came and put a hanger to his breast ; on which this deponent acknowledged himself his prisoner, and consented to go where he pleased ; but that he thrust the hanger through his cloaths, and slightly wounded him in the breast.

When this deponent felt the sword hurt him, he jumped aside ; and then Schultz said “ You had better put your sword by.” After some struggling Kello took the hanger from the lieutenant, but did not observe whether Schultz was wounded or not ; that the prisoner went to a public-house, and afterwards heard that Schultz was wounded ; and that the lieutenant was cut in the hand.

Frederick Hardwicke, being sworn, acknowledged that he had touched the bottom of the woman’s gown as he was passing her ; owned he was a little disguised in liquor, and that, after he had touched the woman’s gown, he received a blow from behind on his neck, and his hat fell off ; but he could not tell by whom the blow was given. When he recovered himself, and got to his companions, he observed that Schultz was wounded, and that the lieutenant was going to the public-house with a drawn hanger in his hand ; he followed him, and staid there two minutes : he observed that the lieutenant’s hand was bloody, and immediately went home to his own lodging.

Sarah Hoskins, an oyster woman, wife of William Hoskins of Bell-dock, saw four young men in the highway, and observed the lieutenant collar Hardwicke, and likewise saw a woman on the other side of the way, whom she heard say “ you dirty fellow, how dare you meddle with my gown ?” or petticoat, the deponent could not be sure which ;
Her

Her husband, the lieutenant, then came up, and said, "My dear, what is the matter?" to which she replied, "the dirty fellow has been pulling my gown," or words to that purpose.

Mrs. Hoskins then saw the lieutenant collar Frederick Hardwicke, and say, "If you don't go along with me, I will draw my sword and stab you." They then struggled from the Bell ale-house door till they got between a brazier's and tin-shop, at the distance of nine or ten yards. In the mean time one of the men, who had a stick, hit the lieutenant on the back, while Hardwicke and he were struggling. During this commotion, the lieutenant's wife was hanging round his neck in the highway; but this deponent did not see the sword drawn, only heard the threat that it should be done: nor did she know whether the sword was drawn before or after the lieutenant was struck.

About five or six minutes after the lieutenant was struck with the stick, she heard somebody cry out, "Stop him, stop him, the young man is dead in the tin-shop." The lieutenant then went into the ale-house.

This was the substance of the evidence; and the judge then said to the counsel for the prisoner, "Do you mean to make this less than manslaughter?" To which the counsel replied in the following words: "No, my lord, we cannot make it less than manslaughter. The lieutenant was used very ill while his wife was hanging round his neck to prevent any further fighting. She was cut across her neck, and the lieutenant had his hand and his coat cut in two places, and was beat all over his arm and shoulders."

The court now observing that, if the jury were satisfied, nothing farther need be heard, but if not

they would proceed ; the jury said, “ my lord, we “ are all satisfied ;” and soon afterwards they gave a verdict that the prisoner was “ Not guilty of the “ murder, but guilty of manslaughter only ;” on which he was branded and discharged.

We see that, in the instance before us, a life had been lost, yet the party accused could not be convicted of murder ; and we have the rather inserted this trial, to caution people to avoid occasional quarrels in the streets, which can never be attended with any good consequences, and are frequently productive of the most fatal.

In the present case, we find that the accused party was what is called a lieutenant of a press-gang ; that is, the principal savage among savages. The custom of impressing, let counsellors plead, and senators debate till they are hoarse, is incompatible with every idea we can frame of the natural right to that freedom which God has bestowed equally on us all ; and which, from the very nature of the donation, it appears to be every man’s duty to support.

There is nothing very particular in the case before us which tends to prove any insolence on the part of the lieutenant ; but these volumes are growing to a conclusion, and we could not think of putting a period to them without entering our protest against a practice which opposes every sentiment of humanity, and militates against all the finer feelings of the soul.

What ! because a man has served his country faithfully for a series of years by sea, and has at length retired in the fond hope of enjoying the sweets of domestic felicity, shall he be dragged from the fond wife, and the helpless innocents, when he wishes not again to tempt the danger of
the



Doyle delin.

White sculp.

*Mode of punishment by BRANDING, or burning on
the HAND, at the New Sessions House.*



the seas? Honour, common honesty, plain sense, humanity, and even law, reprobate the idea!

We have had of late two or three instances of freemen of London being impressed; but they have been discharged: the hardiest, the most callous of our lawyers dare not bring the matter to a legal issue: they know that sound sense, and the laws of the realm, are against the practice; they therefore fly from the subject, and, like the Parthians, conquer in retreat.

Setting aside all moral considerations, and permitting even humanity to sleep on this subject, sound policy forbids this infernal practice. The British tars are full free to serve their country. Let proper bounties be offered, let proper encouragements be held forth, and the navy will never want a man. It will be said that the giving high bounties to sailors will occasion an increase of those taxes which are already nearly insupportable. No doubt but our taxes are very burthensome; but let our pensioners be reduced in number and in pay, and we shall not want a sum to reward our daring sailors. Besides, the bounties given to these men, politically considered, cost nothing. Every man knows that a seaman carries nothing abroad with him but his jacket, his trowsers, and his valour. He spends his bounty-money where he receives it; and the cash circulates among those who gave it.

Let BRITISH GENEROSITY vie with BRITISH VALOUR, and we may bid DEFIANCE to the WORLD!



Account of the Trial of HENRY BALL, THOMAS OSBORNE, and WILLIAM HILDON, for a *Burglary* in an uninhabited House at *Hendon* in *Middlesex*, whence they stole a Quantity of Household Furniture, some Linen, Wearing Apparel, and other Articles, the Property of BENJAMIN WOOD.

EARLY in the month of November, 1778, Mr. Wood and his family moved from Hendon to his house in town, for the winter season. About two o'clock in the morning of the 18th of December, John Fuller, a watchman at Hampstead, observed a cart passing through that town heavily laden, and attended by two men on horseback; and, stepping into the road, he asked, what was in the cart? To which no answer was given; but the horse being whipped, the cart was driven against the corner of a broker's shop, and overturned; when the horsemen rode off at full speed. Ball then came up, and being questioned by Fuller, denied that he belonged to the cart, and struck him with his fist on the neck; whereupon Fuller drew a hanger, threatening to put him to instant death, if he attempted any further resistance. Ball having surrendered, Fuller delivered him into the charge of two constables; and then went to the cart, and gave that and the goods it contained and the horses into the custody of a constable, named Muddocks, who had just found a man's hat in the road, which was supposed to have been lost by one of the prisoner's accomplices.

About noon Mr. Wood received information, that his house at Hendon had been broke open and robbed; and Mrs. Wood immediately set out
to

to examine what loss was sustained. She found that the house was almost entirely stripped of the furniture; that the cellar had been broke open, and liquor of different sorts stolen, and from some rum being left in a tea-cup, she supposed the robbers had drank while they were in the house.

On the trial of the above offenders, Simon Edwards swore, that he searched Ball soon after his apprehension, and found in his possession an iron crow, a chissel, three common keys, and a number of pick-lock keys.

Samuel Muddocks deposed, that he had tried the three keys taken from Ball, and found them exactly to fit the locks to which Mrs. Wood had informed him they belonged; and that he had tried the pick-locks, and found that one of them would open the lock of the front door. This witness further said, that he tried the chissel and the crow, and that they fitted the marks in the door and other parts of the house that were broken; that it appeared as if the villains had entered by the front door, and broke open the back door, for the purpose of moving the goods with the greater secrecy; and that he had traced the marks made by a cart and one horse from the back-door into the road.

Dennis M'Donald swore, that in consequence of an information exhibited before the bench of magistrates sitting at the Rotation-office in Litchfield-street, he went to the house of a Mr. Davis in Fetter-lane, and in a room on the second floor found Osborne and Hillsdon lying on a bed in their cloaths, and that their shoes were entirely covered with country dirt; that he found a towel with Mrs. Wood's mark on it lying upon the bed, and took two keys from Hillsdon, who was attempting to throw them away, and the next day went to Henden-

don,

don, and found that the keys exactly fitted the locks belonging to the two closets in Mr. Wood's fore parlour; that he found an iron crow concealed in the chimney; and that Davis's wife told him Osborne and Hilsdon came in about five o'clock in the morning. Charles Grubb and James Hide confirmed the evidence of M'Donald; and Grubb produced the iron crow and the towel, which latter Mrs. Wood swore to be her property.

Thomas Boyce deposed, that on his way to London he stopped at Hampstead, and heard a report that a robbery had been committed; that when he reached Battle-bridge, he observed a man walking in the road without a hat, and having a handkerchief tied upon his head, and remarked his person very particularly, as he entertained a suspicion of him from the circumstance of his being without a hat at that severe season of the year, and the recollection that a hat had been left on the road at Hampstead by one of the supposed robbers. Boyce said he could not positively swear to the person of Hilsdon, but believed him to be the man he had seen without a hat at Battle-bridge.

John Fletcher, clerk in the public-office in Litchfield-street, being sworn, said, that when Ball was brought before the magistracy for examination, he requested to be an evidence for the crown, which being refused, on account of the notoriety of his character, he voluntarily acknowledged his guilt, and mentioned the parties who were concerned with him in the robbery, in consequence of which officers were dispatched to Davis's house, in order to apprehend them.

Boyce was called a second time, and questioned as to the dress of the man he had mentioned seeing at Battle-bridge; and he described him as being
dressed

dress'd in a sailor's jacket much worn. Grubb swore, that the description given by Boyce exactly corresponded with the appearance of Hilsdon at the time of his being apprehended.

Mary Davis appeared on behalf of Hilsdon, and positively denied having told M'Donald, Grubb, and Hide, that Osborne and Hilsdon came to her house about five in the morning of the 18th of December, but swore that she let Hilsdon in about eight o'clock in the evening of the 17th; that he went up to his own apartment, and that she saw him no more till about six the next evening, soon after which the officers came to apprehend him. Richard Davis said, Hilsdon had lodged in his house about a year and three quarters, and that he had always believed him to be an honest man. William Hall, and Joseph Loe, also gave him a good character; and Loe swore, that Osborne declared to him in the prison, that Hilsdon was not concerned in the burglary at Henden. Mr. Lay, master of a coal-wharf, said, he had employed Hilsdon as a carman twelve years, during which time he had acted as an honest, sober, and industrious man, and that he had considered him as a very valuable servant; adding that he was in his business on the 17th, but not on the 18th of December. After some consultation, the jury declared the prisoners to be guilty, and they received sentence of death.

Henry Ball and Thomas Osborne were executed at Tyburn on Friday the 9th of February, 1779.*

Ball was one of the villains concerned in the daring robbery at Mr. Clewen's at Finchley; his character had been long notorious as a house-breaker,

* Hilsdon was reprieved.

breaker, and he had been more than once admitted an evidence for the crown : he was a man of a remarkably stout make, and of an active spirit in exploits of villainy, where the danger did not seem great ; but his companions frequently upbraided him for cowardice, on account of the terror by which he appeared to be affected when he supposed the officers of justice to be in search of him. Osborne had also been concerned in a great number of daring robberies, and was considered as a most dangerous nuisance to society. A few days before his execution he told a man of his acquaintance, that “ he expected to die at the gallows ; but
 “ that he did not believe the hemp was then spun
 “ that was to form the rope by which his body
 “ was destined to be suspended.”

What felicity can that man promise himself who infringes the laws instituted for the regulation and good order of society ? He declares war against mankind, who, in order to provide for their own safety, unite in a common interest to expel him that community of which he has rendered himself a dangerous and disgraceful member. If we had no desires to satisfy, we should have no motive to activity ; and a perpetual supineness, and want of variety, would render life insupportably tedious. If gratification is obtained by unjustifiable means, it must be slight and transitory ; for the pains of a wounded conscience will admit of no intermission in the hours of solitude, and in those of hilarity they will only subside to return with aggravating poignancy. Let us teach ourselves to think with the excellent Rousseau : “ When delivered from
 “ the illusions of our bodies and senses, we shall
 “ enjoy the contemplation of the Supreme Being,
 “ and the eternal truths of which he is the source :
 “ when

“ when the beauty of order shall strike all the
 “ powers of our souls, and we are only employed
 “ in comparing what we have done with what we
 “ ought to have done, then the voice of conscience
 “ will recover its empire; then the pure will, which
 “ springs from self-content, and the bitter regret
 “ of having disgraced ourselves, will distinguish,
 “ by inexhaustible sentiments, the lot which every
 “ one has prepared for himself.”



Account of the Trials of WILLIAM COOPER,
 and THOMAS LEWINGTON, who were
 convicted of robbing a *Waggon*.

WE insert this case because the robbery of
 Waggon has become so frequent, within
 the last two years, as to render it necessary for the
 legislature to interpose, to provide a more effectual
 punishment for a crime which has increased to a
 most alarming magnitude, and which renders it
 unsafe for our traders to trust their property by
 the common mode of conveyance.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in December, 1778, William Cooper and Thomas Lewington were indicted for stealing seventy pounds weight of raw silk, value seventy pounds, the property of Edward Hewitt, on the first of the same month.

Robert Joblin, book-keeper at the White Horse inn, Cripplegate, deposed, that, on the 30th of November, one Atkins, porter to Mr. Hewitt, a silk-mercant in Wood-street, brought four or five boxes to go by the waggon to Glasgow; that there

was raw silk in some of them; and that they were loaded in the waggon, which waggon was afterwards robbed of a box directed to Brown, Burn, and Company, at Paisley.

William Stocker, warehouse-man to Mr. Hewitt, proved the packing up five boxes to go by the Newcastle waggon*, and that they were sent to the inn, directed as mentioned by the preceding witnesses. The book-keeper went to Mr. Stocker the following day, and told him that the waggon was robbed of one of the boxes, and desired him to attend at Bow-street, where two men and a woman were in custody, on whom had been found a quantity of silk. Mr. Stocker went accordingly, and saw a box, to the direction of which he could positively swear. He likewise observed a mark on the silk, which the dyers put on to distinguish one person's silk from that of another; and he said the weight of the silk produced at Sir John Fielding's corresponded with that in the box; but, for his own part, he did not know the silk-dyer's mark.

George Durant, a silk-dyer, gave a very clear and conclusive evidence. He said, that he sent to Mr. Hewitt 400 lb. weight of such silk as that produced on the trial. He farther deposed, that it was morally impossible to swear to silk after it was out of his hands, unless it had his private mark on it; that he went with Mr. Stocker to the Brown Bear in Bow-street, opposite Sir John Fielding's, where he was shewn the silk, the whole of which he looked through, and found two, and only two, of his private marks. Before he looked at this silk he shewed
the

* From this evidence, compared with the former, it should seem as if the Newcastle waggon went to Glasgow, or that there is a waggon between one town and the other.

the officers the mark which should be on it, if it was the same that he dyed for Mr. Hewitt. His custom was to tie a particular kind of knot to distinguish one man's filk from that of another; and he said, that as far as any private mark could identify any property, he could swear that the filk in question was the property of Mr. Hewitt.

The court, observing that he had only found two marks on the filk, asked Mr. Durant how many there ought to have been? To which he replied in the following words; "I do not know that it ought to have more; we seldom put more than two marks if it is 70 lb. weight; we divide certain quantities into certain parcels; we seldom put less than 30 lb. in a parcel, sometimes five, six, or seven and thirty; we put a mark upon each; therefore, I apprehend, this could have but two marks upon it. We often boil forty men's filk together; we have a different mark for every man's filk. This mark has been Mr. Hewitt's as long as I have been in this way, which is ten years and upwards."

William Lee deposed, that he was a watchman in Kingsland road; that between eight and nine at night he saw the two prisoners and another man following the Newcastle waggon; that they were at the distance of about four lamps from the waggon; that he had some suspicion of them; that the porter went out of London a little way with the waggon, and when he returned he told him of these men following the waggon. On the following morning the waggoner acquainted him with the robbery, and asked him to shew him where the parties lived.

Lee being asked if he knew the parties, replied in the affirmative, and said, that he bade them

good night on their return, and that Cooper bade him good night. This deponent went with the waggoner to a house at Hoxton, where they found the prisoners, and another man, who got away from them; he said, that he secured Cooper, and his companion took Lewington into custody; and on searching their room the two bags of silk were found.

George Sturton, one of Sir John Fielding's men, deposed, that he was present when the room was entered, and Lewington was found asleep with his head on the table; and that he observed a trunk, the lock of which was taken off; that the porter opened the trunk, and said there was some of the property. This deponent going into another room, saw Cooper and Woody (a supposed accomplice) both asleep with their cloaths on; Woody was on the bed, and Cooper on the ground, with some of the property under him. Lewington rose up, and was seized, but Woody slipped aside, and made his escape. Sturton said, that the watchman seized Cooper as he was going down stairs. A constable was sent for; the room was searched, and two bags of silk, and other things, were found. This deponent swore to the bags, which had never been out of his custody.

John Read deposed, that he was the driver of the Newcastle waggon, and that when he came to Hertford, about seven o'clock in the morning, he found that the ropes had been cut, that the sheet was rent to the length of about a foot, and that he missed three boxes. He said that an old gentlewoman, a passenger from the inn, was in the waggon all night, but that she was at such a distance, that the boxes might easily be taken out without her knowing it.

The driver saying that he had either walked or rode by the waggon all night, and that the ropes were cut on the off-side* ; the jury asked him, if he had not stopped to drink? To which he replied, that he had drank a pint of beer at the Ship at Tottenham, but had not stayed a minute.

Cooper made an indifferent defence, and called four witnesses, who gave him a good character; but Lewington did not pretend to set up the slightest justification of his conduct.

The jury found a verdict of guilty; the prisoners were sentenced to work three years at ballast-heaving on board the lighter off Woolwich.

Perhaps if we had a law to make the offence of robbing a waggon equally capital with a common robbery on the highway, we should have few instances of such crimes being committed. As matters now stand, not a week passes but we hear of robberies of this kind: the dairy-man cannot send his butter, nor the farmer and grazier their meat to market, but some lurking villains are on the road, ready to cut the ropes. The packages fall unknown to the driver, owing to the noise made by the horses and carriage: some accomplices are behind with a light cart to pick up the goods thus dropped, and when they have them in possession they turn about, and go into London by some other road.

Within a few months past these villains have gone as far as ten or a dozen miles out of London,

to

* This is always the case in robbing of waggons. The thieves constantly cut the ropes on the opposite side from the driver; and the noise of the carriage prevents his knowing what is transacted.

to commit their felonies: but they have sometimes ventured on the early waggons after they have been on the stones of London.

It has been known that fifty pounds worth of provisions have been thus stolen, in one morning, from waggons coming to Newgate-market only; and some countrymen have lost as much in a week as the profits of three months could not repay.

We know that dogs of particular breed may be trained to any duty. The docility of these animals is amazing. Would it not be good policy in the owners of waggons to have one strong dog constantly in the carriage, and another walking under it? The dogs would certainly discharge their duty, and the property would be preserved. There are hundreds of villains who will rob and plunder their fellow-creatures, who would tremble at the idea of encountering a dog.



Account of the Trials of GEORGE ROACH, ROBERT ELLIOT, and JONAS PARKER, who were convicted, the two first of stealing, the other of receiving Part of a leaden Coffin*.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in April, 1778, these men were indicted, the two former for stealing a leaden Coffin, of three hundred pounds weight, value £5, the property of William Thornton Aston, Esquire, and Parker was indicted for

* The trials of these men are inserted a little out of their proper order, at the request of a subscriber, who obligingly sent us a drawing for the print corresponding thereto.





*Geo. Rouch, Rob^t. Elliott, & Th^s. Gould, stealing the
LEADEN COFFIN of W.T. ASTON, Esq^r in the
Vault of Aldermanbury Church.*

for receiving fifty pounds weight of the lead, value 5s. knowing the same to have been stolen. The second count * in the indictment laid the lead to be the property of the parishioners of Aldermanbury, and stolen by Roach and Elliott; and the third count charged Jonas Parker with receiving it, being the property of the parishioners of Aldermanbury, well knowing it to have been stolen.

William Thornton Aston, Esq; deposed, that, on the first of January preceding, his brother was interred in a leaden coffin, in the church of Aldermanbury; that the coffin was stolen out of the church, and was missed on the seventh of March.

James Gould, who had been admitted an evidence, deposed that Roach, Elliot, and himself, were journeymen carpenters, working under Mr. Augurs in the repair of the church. He said that on Friday the 6th of March he and Roach went into the vault, and unscrewed all the screws of Mr. Thornton's coffin except two, after which they returned to their work; and that, afterwards, themselves and Elliot agreed to work again on the coffin.

On the Saturday morning they went to the church, and about five o'clock a watchman followed them in, and desired a board to be planed, which was done by Gould. The accomplices then loosened the other screws, and turned the coffins bottom upwards, taking off the outside coffin, and
leaving

* We have not yet had occasion to mention the practice of laying different *counts* in an indictment. This seems to be intended to prevent, by every possible method, villains escaping the justice of their country.

leaving only the shell. They then cut the leaden coffin in pieces, and replacing the other coffin on the shell, screwed it down again.

These transactions lasted them till near eight in the morning, when they took the pieces of the coffin, and having concealed them under the childrens gallery, they conferred on selling what they had stolen; when Elliott mentioned Parker, in Grubbs-street, as a likely purchaser.

The lead being in two pieces, Gould put one of them in a bag, and took it away, and the other was put in a basket, and carried by one of the accomplices. When they got to London-wall, Elliot beckoned Gould, and they went to a shop where they offered the lead to sale, to a person who refused to be the purchaser. They then went to Parker's, who weighed the lead, without asking them any questions, said it was forty two pounds, and paid them three shillings and six-pence for it, being at the rate of a penny a pound. When they were going away with the empty bag, Mr. Augurs's apprentice came in and seized on Gould, desiring Parker, who was a constable, to assist in conveying him and Elliot to Mr. Augurs's. Parker said, "You had better go to your master, and try to make the matter up." They went and were all charged with the felony. Parker said, "Give them a *trevalle* for it."

Gould, being asked what he understood by that term, said he did not exactly know what it meant; but supposed it was a hint to attempt making their escape; on which they *made a run for it* (to use his own words), and Parker likewise ran away; but they were stopped and taken into custody, before they had got to any considerable distance.

John

John Brotherous, apprentice to Mr. Augurs, confirmed so much of the former testimony as related to himself. He said, that passing by London-wall about eight in the morning, he saw Roach coming down Wood-street, with a basket on his back; and that Roach seeing him, crossed over the street. Brotherous demanded what he had with him: he said his tools, and turned round, as if to prevent his looking in his basket; but he did look in, and saw there was lead; on which he seized Roach, and sent for a constable to take him into custody. This was the occasion of his going to the house of Parker, whom he knew to be a constable. On his arrival at Parker's, he met with Gould and Elliot coming out of the house with empty sacks; on which he supposed they had sold something there.

He charged Parker with the prisoners; but he said, "You had better go to your master quietly, and make the affair up." Brotherous informed his master what had passed; and he caused all the prisoners to be apprehended, who endeavoured to make their escape as the proper officer was conveying them to the Compter.

Mr. Reynolds, an undertaker, deposed that he buried Mr. Thornton in a leaden coffin: that he surveyed the vault on the 7th of March, when the coffin was missing: that he compared the pieces that were found at Parker's with the rest of the coffin, that was found under the gallery of the church; and when all were beaten together into the same form, they made out the shape and quantity * of Mr. Thornton's coffin; the plate, with Mr. Thornton's name on it, was found in Roach's chest;

VOL. V. No. 50.

X x

chest;

* This seems to be a very conclusive kind of evidence.

chest; the lead, to the weight of fifty-two pounds; was found under the counter in Parker's shop; and this deponent added that it was a sort of lead worked in a fashion peculiar to coffins, and that people in the trade knew very well that it was coffin lead.

Isaac Mather deposed, that old lead was worth about thirteen shillings and sixpence the hundred weight, or three half-pence the pound.

By way of defence, Roach said, that Gould put the lead into his basket, but that he knew nothing of its being stolen. Elliot likewise denied all knowledge of the stealing the lead, and said he never received any money, or other thing on account thereof, but was in Parker's shop buying a hinge for his own use; but was astonished when he saw Gould there, and still more at his master's apprentice giving charge of him.

Parker's plea of defence was, that the evidence came into his shop to sell some lead, which he did not know was stolen; that when he had weighed, and was paying for it, Mr. Augurs's apprentice entered, and gave him charge of the prisoners; and that, when at the master's house, he charged him likewise; but that he immediately mentioned where the two pieces were which he had bought; in consequence of which they were found.

All the prisoners called persons who gave them good characters: but the jury, having fully considered the nature of the evidence, gave a verdict "That they were guilty:" in consequence of which, at the close of the sessions, Roach and Elliot were sentenced to labour three years on the Thames, and Parker to be imprisoned for a like term of time.

The robbing of churches has ever been deemed sacrilegious, by all who have professed any veneration

ration for the duties and obligations of religion, The idea of disturbing the ashes of the dead has something in it abhorrent to the feelings of human nature, to the dictates of christian piety. When the clay-cold body is committed to the tomb, we presume that it is to rest in peace till the final renovation of all things: nor can the surviving friends and relations easily pardon those who violate the mansions of the dead, and make a jest of the rites of sepulture.

The solemn funeral once closed, we take a temporary farewell, in the hope of meeting in a glorious eternity; but, while the frailties of mortality surround us, it is impossible not to look with abhorrence on those who can commit a theft attended with every circumstance of horror!

Supposing our friends to repose in peace, we comfort ourselves that they have only drawn the inevitable lot; that they are gone but a short stage forward on that road whither we must soon follow them; and in this consideration we can chearfully say, with the poet,

Why should we mourn departing friends,
Or shake at death's alarms?
'Tis but the voice that Jesus sends,
To call us to his arms.

Are we not tending upwards too,
As fast as time can move?
Why should we wish the hours more slow,
That keep us from our Love?

My soul, then, meditate the day,
And think how near it stands,
When thou must quit thy house of clay,
And fly to unknown lands.

Account of the Trial of DOCTOR BARTHOLOMEW DOMINICETTI, who was indicted for a pretended *Forgery*, in altering the principal Sum of a Promissory Note, payable to MICHAEL PARYS, from £.16 to £.20, with Intention to defraud ANTONIO RAMPONI.

RAMPONI being desirous of opening a tavern, consulted doctor Dominicetti, with whom he had been some years acquainted, as to the measures he should pursue, for entering into business with the most favourable prospect of success; and the doctor recommended him to Mr. Andrees, secretary to the Venetian ambassador; and, through the joint interest of that gentleman and the doctor, Ramponi was enabled to open a handsome house in Fanton-square.

Ramponi's business not proving so advantageous as was expected, he became involved in pecuniary difficulties; and his creditors being exceedingly importunate for their respective demands, the doctor offered him an asylum in his house at Chelsea. At this period, a settlement of all money transactions was proposed by the doctor, who then declared, that if Ramponi would pay him £.100, he would give him an acquittance of his whole debt, amounting to upwards of £.340; and John Dodsworth was employed to draw out the account current between the parties. Thus were matters situated when the circumstance took place which gave rise to the trial, the particulars of which we shall now relate.

Mr. Michael Parys, of the hotel in Suffolk-street, deposed, that in January, 1777, he received a note
of

of hand for £.16, and £.8 : 14s. 6d. in cash, of doctor Dominicetti, in discharge of a book-debt contracted by Ramponi to his brother-in-law, Mr. Harris of Bath; and being shewn the altered note on which the indictment was founded, proved that it was the identical note he had received from the doctor for £.16, and paid away for the same sum to Mr. Vickers.

The note being shewn to Mr. Tho. Vickers, he swore that he received it of Mr. Parys; and that when it became due he presented it to Mess. Stevenson and Gentel, to whom it was directed for payment; and that Mr. Gentel gave him in exchange for the note sixteen pounds in cash.

Mr. John-Henry Gentel swore, that doctor Dominicetti authorized him to pay his note of hand for £.16, and that the note produced in court was the same he received from Mr. Vickers, and returned to the doctor as a note for £.16, in which state it was presented for payment.

The next witness examined was John Dodsworth, who deposed, that he was employed by doctor Dominicetti to draw out an account current between him and Antonio Ramponi; that he attended at the doctor's house at Chelsea, and produced the account, which was examined and approved by both parties, who ordered him to cast up the several sums, and strike the balance; that, while he was casting up the account, Ramponi went out of the room, when the doctor said, "Hold, Dodsworth, I recollect to have a note, the amount of which I paid to Mr. Parys for Ramponi;" that he produced a note for £.20, and ordered him to charge that sum to his account against Ramponi, which he did accordingly; that presently after Ramponi returned, and the account current was signed

signed by both parties. Being asked if he knew Mr. Craigh, the governor advocate of Gibraltar, he replied, "Yes, to my mortification, I do." He confessed, that he had committed an offence, for which that judge had sentenced him to be executed; and said, that "since his enlargement he had endeavoured to act the part of an honest man." Upon the cross-examination of this accomplished villain, the calm and determined manner in which he perjured himself, his shocking ingratitude, and a thousand instances of most abominable villainy, struck the court with astonishment and horror. He was brought to acknowledge, that doctor Dominicetti's son was present at the settlement of the account, though he had before sworn to the contrary; and that an alteration of four pounds, which appeared in the account current, was made by himself, in order to make the sum total correspond with the alteration made in the principal sum of the note.

The court and the jury, clearly perceiving with how iniquitous a view the prosecution was instituted, refused to hear further evidence, and honourably acquitted the doctor; advising him to prosecute the delinquents under a bill of indictment, which had been already found by the grand jury against Ramponi and Dodsworth for a conspiracy.

Ramponi and Dodsworth had experienced innumerable instances of benevolence from doctor Dominicetti, who supplied Ramponi with several considerable sums merely on his personal security; and even gave the note of hand for £.16, on which the prosecution was founded, when he knew Ramponi to be in desperate circumstances; and had so little hope of recovering that, or any former sums
advanced

advanced for his use, that he offered to accept £.100 for his whole demand.

The deplorable situation of Dodsworth excited the compassion of the doctor, who took him under his protection, and allowed him a handsome maintenance for regulating his accounts and some other little services for which he was qualified. He committed several forgeries upon the doctor for small sums, and was guilty of many other acts of delinquency, which at length induced his generous benefactor to withdraw his patronage.

In return for the singular benevolence and liberality of the doctor, they entered into a diabolical combination to exhibit against him a felonious accusation, to which the life of a worthy man would have been sacrificed, but for those excellent laws which are equally framed for the protection of the innocent and the punishment of the guilty.

Ramponi's view was evidently to free himself from a claim of upwards of £.340; and the promise of a trifling gratification prevailed upon Dodsworth to join in the infernal conspiracy.

The villany of these men was so enormous, that to dwell on the subject would perhaps be thought impertinent, because it would be to anticipate those sentiments which a perusal of the above narrative must necessarily suggest to our readers. That species of ingratitude which consists merely in neglecting a proper acknowledgment of benefits received, is justly numbered among the vices most degrading to human nature; but what terms of reprobation can convey an adequate idea of the abhorrence that every man, not wholly abandoned to all the principles allied to virtue, must entertain for those characters that aggravate the sin of ingratitude by deliberately concerting schemes to involve in affliction

tion and ignominy such as by repeated acts of beneficence have entitled themselves to the warm effusions of grateful acknowledgment!



Narrative of the extraordinary Case of ROWLAND RIDGLEY, who was convicted of having in his possession a Puncheon, on which was impressed the Figure of the Head-side of a Shilling.

AT the sessions held at the Old Bailey in December, 1788, Rowland Ridgley was indicted "for that he, not being a person employed in or for the mint, knowingly, feloniously, and traiterously, had in his custody and possession, a puncheon made of iron and steel, in and upon which was made and impressed the figure, resemblance, and similitude, of the head-side of a shilling, without any lawful authority or sufficient excuse for that purpose, against the duty of his allegiance, and against the statute, &c. on the 19th of June*."

The first witness called was John Clarke, who deposed, that he went to the house of one Ball, in Bunhill-row; that he knew the room belonged to the prisoner by the cloaths that were found there, which cloaths he had seen the prisoner wear; and that after he was apprehended, and taken before a magi-

* He was likewise indicted for having in his possession a puncheon, upon which was impressed, &c. the figure of a guinea.

magistrate, he acknowledged that the lodgings belonged to him, and that the cloaths were his property.

Moses Morant testified, that he went with Clarke to Bunhill-row, where they broke open the door in presence of Ball:—that he found under the chest of drawers a quantity of halfpence, and, among some litter, a leaden pot containing a parcel of puncheons and halfpence; and that under the drawers he found some shillings; and some half-crowns on the tester of the bed.

Clarke said farther, that there were some bad guineas in the pot, and that the puncheons which were found were completely finished; that it might have been proper to have had a tail-side made; but that would have been attended with more trouble and expence, and therefore only the head-side was represented. Clarke would not undertake to swear that the impression on the counterfeit shillings was made from the puncheons found, but that it had all the appearance of being so.

Thomas Ball, landlord of the house, deposed, that the prisoner had lodged with him about a week; that he had the key of the room in his own possession; and that he never heard him make a noise with any instruments, which he thought must have been the case if the prisoner had used any. This deponent was present when the articles above-mentioned were found.

John Dixon swore, that he apprehended the prisoner on the 8th of October, but found not any counterfeit money on him; however, he found a paper-writing, dated the 30th of September, which imported to be a notice from him of his intention to surrender.

Mr. Pingo was next sworn.—To afford a clear idea of the force of his evidence, it will be necessary to give it in his own words: —“ I am an engraver of the Mint; the prisoner is not employed by the Mint; the puncheon makes the dye, and the counter-puncheon is the dye when it is made; the machines produced are puncheons, but not puncheons made at the Mint. The method by which these are made is, that they first take a true shilling, and cut it away to the outline of the head; when they have done that, they take a piece of steel, on which they fix this outline; and then they file or cut the steel close away to that outline, till the steel is exactly the shape of the head, and that is what is called a puncheon; these particular puncheons are all ready for use, for they are all hardened, and they never are hardened till they are ready for use; that is the last operation they go through. It is impossible to say positively whether the shillings found in the prisoner's lodgings were made from these puncheons, because they are so imperfect, but they have all the appearance of it. In a new dye, or counter-puncheon, the letters are always engraved in the counter-puncheon after it is struck; there is no occasion to have any letters on old coin, it will pass without. The letters are put on afterwards, and a puncheon is complete without any letters at all; a puncheon may have letters made upon it, but they never use such puncheons at the Mint, from the inconvenience of them, because they would be so liable to break, and would require so much nicety to represent all the little angles and corners of the letters; that is the very reason that we engrave the letters afterwards upon the counter-puncheon;

“ cheon; but for making base shillings nothing
 “ else is necessary but this puncheon; these pun-
 “ cheons which are produced, barely as you see
 “ them, though they might be for the making base
 “ shillings, yet they may be made use of for other
 “ purposes; namely, for making seals, buttons,
 “ medals, or other things, where such impressions
 “ are wanted.”

Ann Goodman deposed, that she was a servant to the landlord of the house where the prisoner lodged; that she went frequently up into the room next Ridgley’s apartment, and his door was never locked.

Several persons deposed, that he was a book-binder by trade, that he had worked for them, and bore the character of an honest man; nor did they know any thing to impeach that character, till the present accusation against him.

The jury having considered of the whole of the evidence, gave a verdict, “ That the prisoner was “ guilty;” but judgment against him was respited for the opinion of the judges; which opinion was delivered at the sessions held in February, 1779, and imported, that his case was within the meaning of the act of parliament; in consequence of which at the close of the sessions, he received sentence of death.

Of the behaviour of this malefactor after conviction we have nothing very favourable to say. He did not seem properly affected by the dreadful situation in which he stood.

It is remarkable of Ridgley, that he had made himself so sure of acquittal, that, just before he was put on his trial, he told some persons who attended him that he should be discharged in a few minutes.

We have been informed that he had been many years a notorious coiner, and a chief instructor of several of those who came to the gallows before him:—a dreadful trade! how horrid to think of bringing up youths to the most certain fate of ignominy!

On the morning of execution, this man behaved, on his quitting Newgate, and on his way to the fatal tree, with the greatest appearance of unconcern, repeatedly smiling, and shaking hands with his acquaintance as he passed: yet he evidently struggled to conceal an anguish of mind that could *not* be concealed.

When the bellman at St. Sepulchre's church was speaking the admonitory words, Ridgley, who had belonged to a club with him, said, "Remember me at the club to night."

When he arrived at the place of execution, his behaviour took a different turn; he acknowledged the justice of his sentence, and died a penitent.

Rowland Ridgley was executed at Tyburn on the 31st of March, 1779, and the body delivered to his friends for interment.

After all that has been said on the subject of coining, it will be unnecessary to add a single remark; for surely no man can think of practising this dangerous trade, who is not resolutely bent on his own destruction! — The path of virtue, as the poet observes, is indeed strait and thorny, therefore few chuse to walk therein: but it is nevertheless pleasantest, safest, and will bring peace at the last: while, on the other hand, the ways of vice and fraud are injurious, not only to those who use them, but also to the community at large: so that the old maxim will always prove true, that "Honesty is the best policy."



Account of the Trial, Conviction, and Execution,
of FREDERICK JOHN EUSTACE; and
likewise of the Trial and Acquittal of HENRY
LANGHAM, for Housebreaking.

EUSTACE had been a servant to Lord Clarendon, but had quitted his lordship's service some months before the commission of the fact of which he was accused.

At the sessions held at the Old Bailey in February, 1779, Frederick John Eustace was indicted for breaking and entering the dwelling-house of the right honourable Thomas earl of Clarendon, on the night of the 23d of January, and stealing ten shirts, eight neckcloths, four guineas in money, and other effects, the property of Henry Johnson, in the same dwelling-house.

Mr. Johnson deposed, that he was second coachman to lord Clarendon, with whom the prisoner had lived as the upper-coachman, but had quitted his service in the preceding summer; that his fellow-servant, John Cowen, had fastened the doors of the coach-house, which were broke open between eight and nine o'clock on the night mentioned in the indictment, when the above-recited articles and others were taken away: that he did not observe any marks of violence, but that a person who was with him thought he saw the mark of a stick which had been put in to force open the door; and he added, that the persons who committed the fact went up stairs into the room, over the stable, where he slept, and took his box, which contained four guineas, and several other articles.

This box was found on the following morning in Hyde-park, and within it was a smaller box, which contained the money; whereupon Eustace was suspected, and both the prisoners were taken into custody. When he visited them in prison, he found one of his shirts on Eustace, who likewise wore a pair of his stockings; and in his pocket was found a letter directed to a woman, to go to New-street, Carnaby-market, to fetch some linen, some of which was found at the house of his washerwoman. This deponent being asked, if the coach-house and the rooms where the things were was behind the house, answered in the affirmative; but said it was connected with it by walls, and that there was a passage ran from it to the dwelling-house.

John Cowen (upper coachman) swore, that he fastened the coach-house door at eight o'clock; that he was to fetch his lord from the Opera-house at ten o'clock; and that he fastened the door with a bar across it, and an iron rail over the bar, as was usually done when the coach was to go out again: he added, that it was so fastened that it could not be opened with the hand, but might be with a stick, or a long knife; that after it was fastened, he and the other coachman, and the postillion, went to a public-house to drink; and that, on his return, the back-door was open.

Sarah Betney deposed, that she was a washerwoman employed by both the prisoners; that she received from Henry Langham two pair of stockings belonging to the prosecutor: that the prisoners asked her permission to leave some clean linen of their own on the Sunday morning, and took it away on the following day.

She added that an inventory was taken of the linen by the desire of both the prisoners, and in their presence, by Mr. Rozea, with whom this woman lived. This inventory was produced, as drawn by Rozea, and signed by the washerwoman.

John Dixon deposed, that he apprehended the prisoners for a different fact than that alledged in the indictment; that he went to the washerwoman's and saw the linen, and found the inventory in Langham's pocket.

By way of defence, Eustace said, that he had bought the effects in Monmouth-street, and that meeting Langham in Compton-street, he told him he had better leave them at the washer-woman's for safety: in reply to which Dixon said that the prisoner had declared, when before the justice of peace, that he had bought them of a Jew, and that on the justice enquiring what Jew, he said, "it might be a Turk for what he knew."

Hereupon Eustace declared that he had bought them of a Jew woman for two guineas and a half, and that Langham was innocent: and the defence of Langham was that he never saw Eustace till he met him in Compton-street, when they drank a pint of purl, and then went together to the washer-woman's.

In behalf of Langham appeared his brother, who deposed, that he had never known him guilty of any act of dishonesty; that he was never out of his house later than ten at night; though, in other respects, his conduct had not been so regular as might have been wished.—Andrew Paterson, who had known Langham eighteen months; Mr. Dudley, who had known him two years; and Mr. Jones, one year; combined to give him a good character.

The Jury, after a short consideration, found Eustace not guilty of the burglary, but guilty of stealing in the dwelling-house, and he received sentence of death; but Langham was acquitted.

The deportment of Eustace after conviction was exceedingly well adapted to his unhappy circumstances. He behaved with decent resignation, and exemplary piety. He was executed at the same time with Rowland Ridgley, mentioned in the preceding narrative. On his way to the place of execution he employed himself incessantly in singing psalms, or in other acts of devotion. At the fatal tree he confessed, that an attachment to abandoned women of the town had led to his ruin; but he died, to all appearance, a sincere penitent.

Frederick John Eustace was executed at Tyburn on the 31st of March, 1779.

From the fate of this man servants will see the danger, and they should reflect on the crime, of robbing the houses of their masters and benefactors. Eustace was not in the immediate service of Lord Clarendon when he committed the robbery:—but his crime was not the less; for he was seeking to injure an old fellow-servant, who was under the immediate protection of his late master.

Servants who perform their duty with fidelity are generally as happy as any rank of people in the community; while those who fail of it are commonly as miserable as they ought to be.—A becoming deportment will seldom or never go long unnoticed, and never fails to procure respect and credit: but vice and robbery are the highway to ruin and wretchedness.



Account of the remarkable Crime and Trial of
JAMES DONALLY, who was convicted of a
Robbery on the Highway.

THIS prisoner was examined at Bow-street, on a charge of having extorted money, under the vilest of all insinuations, from the honourable Charles Fielding, second son of the earl of Denbigh; and the magistrates, deeming that the offence amounted to a robbery on the highway, committed him for trial; and lord Denbigh was bound to prosecute on behalf of his son, who was under age.

James Donally, alias Patrick Donally, was indicted, at the sessions held at the Old Bailey in February, 1779, “for that he, on the king’s
“highway, in and upon the honourable Charles
“Fielding, did make an assault, putting him in
“corporal fear and danger of his life, and steal-
“ing from his person, and against his will, half
“a guinea, on the 18th of January;” and there was a second count in the indictment, for robbing the same gentleman of a guinea, on the 20th of the same month.

This fact was so atrocious in its nature, and so clearly proved, that it will not be necessary to state the evidence in detail as it arose on the trial, but to give the story by way of narrative.

Between six and seven in the evening of the 18th of January, Mr. Charles Fielding was going from the house of a lady with whom he had dined to Covent Garden theatre, when he was accosted in Soho-square by Donally, who desired he would give him some money. Mr. Fielding, astonished at this address, asked him for what? Donally said he had better comply, or he would take him be-

fore a magistrate, and accuse him of an attempt to commit an unnatural crime.

Terrified by this insinuation, the young gentleman gave him half a guinea, which was all the money he had about him; and, returning to the house where he had dined, borrowed half a guinea of the servant, with an intention of going to the play.

Two days afterwards he again met the prisoner in Oxford-road, when he repeated his threats of carrying him before a magistrate, and to prison; saying that he knew very well what had passed in Soho-square the other night; and, unless he would give him some more money, he would take him before a magistrate, and accuse him of the same attempt which he had threatened on the other day. He added, that it would go hard with him, unless he could prove an *alibi*.

Terrified by these threatenings, Mr. Fielding went to Mr. Waters, a grocer in Bond-street, to whom, under the immediate impressions of his fear, he gave a guinea to give to the prisoner.

It happened, providentially, that on Saturday the 12th of February, lord Fielding was going up Hay-hill; when Donally, owing to the great personal likeness to his brother, accosted him in words which he did not rightly understand. His lordship said, he believed he had mistaken him for some other person, for he did not know his face. Donally said, he believed he must know him, and asked if he did not remember giving him half a guinea in Soho-square? He likewise mentioned the money given him at the grocer's; a knowledge of which his lordship, as well he might, utterly denied.

The prisoner again asking if he did not recollect having given him any money, his lordship asked him

him what was his present demand? and desiring him to explain himself, some farther altercation ensued: on which lord Fielding desired the prisoner to go before a magistrate, with which he seemed to comply, but at length stopped, and said he would not go. During this contest, his lordship was something terrified; and scarcely knowing what kind of charge to make against the prisoner, he was, as he owned on the trial, “weak enough to loose his collar, and let him go.” Donally then turned about, addressed him by the title of “My Lord,” and said, “he should hear from him again.”

On the Tuesday following, as lord Fielding was walking near the same spot, he heard a voice over his shoulder, saying, “Sir, I have met you again,” or some such expression. His lordship, recollecting his voice, turned round, and seized him by the collar. Donally complained that he had used him very ill the last time he saw him. The other replied, “that he had used him too well, for he had let him go; but he would take care to do better this time.”

Donally now desired to be treated like a *gentleman*, saying, he would not be dragged, but would go quietly. Lord Fielding, not seeing any person that was likely to assist him, and apprehending a rescue, told him, that if he would walk along quietly to the next coffee-house, he would not drag him. They walked down Dover-street together; but the prisoner increasing his pace, lord Fielding followed, and seized him. He fell down twice, but was again seized as soon as he arose.

By this time a croud was assembled: Major Hartley, and two other gentlemen, happened to come by. The prisoner was seized, and conveyed

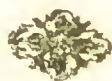
to Bow-street, where the magistrates, on hearing the evidence, thought that the crime amounted to a highway-robbery, and committed the prisoner for trial accordingly*.

Donally, in his defence, acknowledged that he had met lord Fielding twice; that he had addressed him with decency, and desired him to hear something respecting his brother; and that Sir John Fielding had made the honourable Charles Fielding carry on the prosecution. He did not deny the receipt of the guinea at the grocer's in Bond-street: but averred that he did not deserve death on account of the charge against him.

Mr. Fielding swore, that he had given the same account at Bow-street as on the trial; and the jury, having considered the whole evidence, brought in a verdict of "Guilty;" but Mr. Justice Buller, before whom the offender was tried, reserved the case for the opinion of the judges.

With regard to this crime, we cannot but remark that there is *only one* greater. The attempt to extort money on the pretence of making a charge of an abominable crime, can be exceeded only by the commission of the crime itself. That every reader of this work may be incapable of such atrocious baseness, is the fervent wish of the Compiler!

* There have been three, and only three, instances of conviction for crimes of this nature, before the present.







Gold delin.

J. Smith sculp.

PRISONERS stepping at the Baptists' Head in
S^t John's Lane, on the day of removal from the
 NEW-PRISON to NEWGATE .)

CONCLUDING NOTE, by the EDITOR.

THUS have we endeavoured, and we hope not unsuccessfully, to compleat this work; in conformity to the proposals originally offered to the public. We trust we have not omitted any trials of great importance, nor inserted many of a trifling nature.

Those who wish well to Society will be pleased to see vice exposed in every shape, and reprobated under all the variety of forms it may assume. Too much cannot be said to discountenance its propagation, or to enhance the charms of true religion and virtue.

To advance these important purposes should be the aim and end of every publication. The book that does not tend to make people wiser and better is a nuisance to society, and a disgrace to the press.

As the reformation of prisoners, rather than the punishment of them, should be the great aim of our legislators, we beg leave to submit to our readers some extracts from letters written by a gentleman to a member of parliament, both of them of the most amiable private characters, and both of them zealous promoters of every public good.

Jonas Hanway, Esq; in a letter to Sir Charles Bunbury, says, " In the general view of our prisons, I beg leave to make a few remarks, which, to those who have not considered the subject, may carry some degree of information. Of all the abuses which ever crept into civil society, professing Christianity, considering the evil propensities of the common run of our malefactors, the *tap-house* seems to stand in a distinguished rank. " What

“ What reformation can be expected, where it is
 “ the interest of the keeper of a prison to promote
 “ inebriety and dissipation of thought? If he is
 “ suffered to sell strong liquors for his own emo-
 “ lument, he will be tempted to shut his gates
 “ against every one who would relieve the real
 “ crying wants of those who are in need, and open
 “ them wide to all such as will supply the means
 “ of drunkenness. There can be no good reason
 “ for an indulgence, which, scattering the thoughts,
 “ will create a desperate repugnance to the calls
 “ of heaven. When the soul ought to tremble,
 “ as being on the verge of eternity, such a conduct
 “ is abominable beyond all expression.

“ Doth not the magistrate prostitute his autho-
 “ rity, in granting licences on the puerile pre-
 “ sumption that he shall increase the revenue?
 “ Or is it that knowing how scanty the allowance
 “ is to the keepers of prisons, he gives them a
 “ liberty which he knows cannot be used without
 “ the most deadly consequences, even that of pro-
 “ moting the very temper and disposition which
 “ encouraged the malefactor to commit the crime
 “ for which he is imprisoned! This conduct is
 “ reproachable in the highest degree. The ma-
 “ gistrate ought rather to refuse the licence, and
 “ represent the necessity of allowing keepers of
 “ prisons salaries suitable to the importance of
 “ their office.

“ The conversion of a house, which ought to
 “ be a scene of sorrow and repentance, into jollity,
 “ and carelessness to all events, is one of the chief
 “ causes of the evil with which we are so sorely
 “ afflicted. If this is not remedied, can any expe-
 “ dient restore good discipline and true œconomy
 “ in prisons? If some prisoners should be thus de-
 “ prived of a comfort they might be entitled to, it
 “ would

“ would be far better than granting an indulgence
“ so pregnant with mischief to the generality.

“ By an act of the third of his present majesty,
“ no jailor in Ireland is to sell ale, beer, or any
“ other liquor, by himself or any other person,
“ under the penalty of £.5 for every offence; and
“ I am assured it operates happily in preventing
“ the ordinary bad effects. With us the case is
“ different; for every capital prison is a public-
“ house; and though spirituous liquors, commonly
“ so called, are prohibited, yet, under the name
“ of cordials, I am told they pass; or at least that,
“ by the force of wine and malt liquor, all the
“ bad effects of intoxication are continued.

“ Among the several grievances which rise in
“ judgment against us, are the fees demanded of
“ malefactors, now softened, but not abolished.
“ The want of medical assistance—the deficiency
“ of baths—inattention to cleanliness—foul air
“ for want of ventilation—want of a change of
“ clean-washed and well-dried garments, with a
“ regular change of linen;—where these are
“ wanting, death must be a familiar guest to a
“ prisoner.—Even the regular washing of hands
“ and feet is of consequence. A proper regard
“ to diet, according to the apparent wants of pri-
“ soners, is necessary to the preservation of life
“ in prisons, more than in other places; and the
“ defect often operates like a plague.”

That a reform in the management of our prisons
is necessary, no man of common sense can doubt;
and it remains with the wisdom of legislature to
provide a remedy for the evil.

Perhaps the keeping prisoners separate from each
other, and totally denying all the means of intem-
perance, would go far towards effecting that re-
formation which is so much wanted.

As matters now stand, the man charged with felony is repeatedly visited by the most abandoned of his acquaintance, and they mutually harden each other in vice. These visits should be very unfrequent, and never permitted but in the presence of the keeper or his deputy, who should be people of the most unexceptionable character, and take care that not an improper word is uttered.

To drop, however, this subject, let us conclude these volumes by a fervent wish that the readers of them may carefully and steadily avoid every vice therein recorded—every folly therein exposed. Let honesty be the prevailing, the ruling principle among us: let us be humbly content in the situation which Providence hath allotted us; not seeking to possess ourselves of the property of others; and paying a devout reverence to that divine command, the authority of which no one will deny:

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s house,
 “thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s wife,
 “nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant,
 “nor his ox, nor his ass, nor *any thing* that is
 “his.”

As no remedy is so effectual against an habitual course, and the practice, of wickedness, as the divine grace, let us therefore crave that blessing in the words of the poet:

“Stretch out thine arm, victorious King,
 “Our reigning sins subdue;
 “Drive the old dragon from his den,
 “With his infernal crew.”

Come Tight
Getters

on Picture
pages

As matters now stand, the man charged with felony is repeatedly visited by the most abandoned of his acquaintance, and they mutually harden each other in vice. These visits should be very unfrequent, and never permitted but in the presence of the keeper or his deputy, who should be people of the most unexceptionable character, and take care that not an improper word is uttered.

To drop, however, this subject, let us conclude these volumes by a fervent wish that the readers of them may carefully and steadily avoid every vice therein recorded—every folly therein exposed. Let honesty be the prevailing, the ruling principle among us: let us be humbly content in the situation which Providence hath allotted us; not seeking to possess ourselves of the property of others; and paying a devout reverence to that divine command, the authority of which no one will deny:

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s house,
 “thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s wife,
 “nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant,
 “nor his ox, nor his ass, nor *any thing* that is
 “his.”

As no remedy is so effectual against an habitual course, and the practice, of wickedness, as the divine grace, let us therefore crave that blessing in the words of the poet:

“Stretch out thine arm, victorious King,
 “Our reigning sins subdue;
 “Drive the old dragon from his den,
 “With his infernal crew.”



